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BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Light Of Her Eyes

Photo: B. F. Ferreira.

National Efficiency & Scientific Education

(See page 3)

THE ROOM WITH THE LATTICED WINDOW

By N. Santha

"I looked up at Maya's room again before moving away. And prompted by an unexplicable impulse I picked up a stone and threw it at her window. A foolish little gesture of farewell!

To my consternation the window suddenly flew again.

"Who's that?" asked a woman's voice, My heart stood still. It was MAYA"

Darkness had fallen over the city of Singapore.

The streets were all shaded in gloom and stray lights which slowly and dimly came into life in houses here and there showed out clearly the broken walls. the tumbled-in roofs and the air of utter desolation which pervaded everywhere. My steps down the deserted street seemed to echo flatly in the surrounding stillness. I turned a corner. Here I came upon utter darkness. I could guess the reason. There were no people living, no houses which had withstood this terrible onslaught of war.

I walked on. In spite of the desolation which was everywhere, the very pavement under my feet felt warmly familiar. How often I had walked down this very street, sometimes in despair and at others in joy and exultation, and often times in black, unreasonable anger—now many years ago was it? Nine? Ten? Yes, even a little more than ten.

I stayed my steps. Ten years! It was a long time to take to forget one woman. I had waited for five years, hoping against hope for a word a sign, a single gesture of beckoning. But none had come. Those five years had been hell on earth. I lived in a kind of half-ecstatic nightmare, remembering, trying to forget. And the long years slowly but surely did their work.

I came out of it all a calmer and a wiser man. The chaos in my heart had subsided and though her face kept coming back haunting me like a lovely melody of the past, it no longer swept my spirit with stormy intensity. And then had come Sobha and the calm, serene, untroubled years with her. That had helped But even so a hundred ordinary things, the touch of a hand, the glimpse of a smile, trifles in themselves, made memory come back with a rush, drenching me in its warmth not of desire any longer but of sweet and tempered affection, not unmixed with pain, something special, something unassailably of myself.

Her name was Maya and those two passionate months I had spent in this same city ten years ago contained a secret which I could share even with Sobha only when the memory had ceased to give me pain and I could talke about it as if it had happened to somebody else, somewhere else.

I used to wonder often how our lives would have run if Maya had answered "yes" to the question I put to her that quiet, summer evening before I left the place. Her answer, I remember, was characteristic of her.

"Why do you want to marry me?" She demanded.

"You know why."

She swept the room with a slim arm.

"I have told you," she said, a little angry, "you can have all this for the asking."

"No, that is not enough.

She hedged.

"I don't think you love me, after all." she said. I did not answer.

"But why?" she said, now storming "You say you love me. You are even prepared to marry me, but—I really don't understand you. You don't seem to want even to touch me, and except for that one kiss, you have never....."

I lighted a cigarette and looked at her.

"Would you have liked me to?"

There was a silence, tense with her anger.

"Oh, you are horrible," she whispered fiercely, "you have no right to know me so well." She turned and looked at me. "I would have despised you if you had," she said.

"And I would have lost for ever all hopes of marrying you," I said lightly.

She pouted childishly.

"You may not like me as a wife," she said.

"That is for me to say,"

"I cannot sew, I cannot keep house nor can I cook....."

"You won't have to."

She threw herself on a low chair beside me. We had argued for over an hour and had not yet reached a decision.

"Why does love always have to end up in marriage?" she asked petulantly.

"It doesn't have to, but if it is one kind of love it usually does."

She shrugged a slim shoulder.

"I hate marriage," she stated.

"Why?"

"I don't want to settle down."

"You need not, if you don't want to."

"Living at home all day, keeping things in order, waiting for the husband to come home, having babies.. ....oh Moti, it is all too—too boring."

"You will have your friends". I said.

But she shook her head.

"They won't be my friends," she said simply, "they will be yours. They will never be mine." She laughed. "And suppose I am so much in love with you, I won't be interested in anyone else in the whole wide world?"

"Well, the problem is solved."

"It isn't," she retorted angrily, "What will people say?"

"Does it matter?"

"It does—to you."

"It doesn't or I wouldn't be here in the first place"

She thought for a long time.

"I can't ,Moti", she said at last finally, "I think it is my pride. can't bear to have people think I ought to be thankful to have got someone to marry me at all. They will say I have blackmailed you into marrying me. And you will suffer too. "He has married a prostitute. they will whisper behind your back and consider you have demeaned yourself. I will be watched, spied upon, criticised, judged. Everything say and do will acquire new meanings. I would be miserable. Because I feel—I want to feel any happiness which comes to me is just what I deserve, that it is my right. I don't want to thank anybody for anything."

There was a long silence.

"I can't marry, ever." She said in a flat, dead voice.

"There is only one other alternative". I said.

"Yes. But not for money". She paused and continued, "some day I am going to be so beautiful and so clever and so charming, men will be proud to have anything to do with me—yes, even to be my lovers. But not for money. If I love it will be for pleasure. Never for money. I will pick and choose myself", she turned towards me with an amused flash of her dark eyes, "and if you are one of my admirers, perhaps I will choose you".

"And when is that day to be?" I asked in all seriousness.

"Say five years. Or do you think it is too short?" she asked, her eyes bright with mischief.

"I don't know. I suppose if you made up your mind you could achive it in much less", I paused. "You said something about choosing me, I think". I said casually.

"Yes", she said slowly, serious again, "will you come if I send word?"

"If you would marry me".

She didn't argue the point.

"And where are you going to—hold your court, shall I say?" I said, smiling.

She looked round scornfully.

"Not here," she said, "not in this horrible, gloomy old house smelling of cheap cigarettes and liquor. I hate this place".

"Where, then?"

"Oh somewhere—anywhere, as long as it is away from here".

"I love the house. I lived here once, you know".

"I know. But then it was respectable, sacred, clean. And now! Great Gods! Do you think my mother is respectable going about the house with painted face and meaningless smile ready to sell herself to any two rupee bidder? And men so dirty! she could at least have the good taste to choose clean men!" She turned to me with a bitter smile. "All my world is composed of hate", she said, "I hate this house. I hate my mother and I hate the life she leads. And I am going to get away from all this as soon as I can."

"This is goodbye then", I said.

At that she broke down utterly. She put her head on her hands and "Oh, Moti," she cried, "what would I be fighting for with you gone?"

Perhaps if I had spoken then, I might have succeeded in breaking down her resolution. But I did not. I was proud too. And so the crucial moment on which depended the lives of two individuals, passed.

"Not that it is going to change my decision, of course", said Maya recovering herself, "I am going to get what I want. I know I can. Good-bye, Moti. And remember your promise".

The last I saw of her was as she stood tense and white at the latticed window and I remember thinking the working of her mind was just as complex as the net work behind her.

That was ten years ago.

* * *

I walked on taking mechanically the turnings I remembered so well and at last stood near the gate. The drive lay ahead of me and shining whitely in the half darkness was the stone-seat at the side. And beyond that—I felt a sudden weakening in my knees and had to steady myself against the gate. I was prepared to find the house grown old and even altered, the garden neglected, strangers living in the once-familiar rooms, but not for this—this utter destruction and nothingness. For there was no house, only a heap of rubble and forlorn, broken walls.

For one panic-stricken moment I wondered if I was mistaken about the locality. I looked around. I could not be mistaken. This "was" the second house and this "was" the street. The very gate was familiar. It stood undamaged though a little wobbly on its hinges and creaked open as I gave it a slight push. I walked up the path a little way and stared at what was left of the house, my mind tormented by memories. One whole side of the building was a complete wreck. Most of the porch was gone. But the little passage-way at the side was intact. Inside it were the steps which led to the upper part of the house.

Only one room in the first storey remained entirely undamaged. And that, I realized with a sharp pang of memory, was Maya's room. The window was shut and the room was in darkness. In fact, the whole place looked abandoned and deserted. There did not seem to be anybody there, none even to mourn the wreckage. Perhaps everybody had gone, as the thousands of other citizens of Singapore had gone when the enemy came too near. I looked up at Maya's room again. It was in that very room we had had that final painful scene when I said good-bye and left ten years ago.

Where had she gone I wondered? Where had she escaped to from the house which she hated so much? Somewhere far away where gay and beautiful and sophisticated people congregated, where people laughed and sang and made love all day long and life was a joyous holiday. And lovelier and more desirable than everybody else, she would be the centre of it all. Loved by many and perhaps for her there would be one more favoured than others..Whom had she chosen? "Will you come," she had asked "if I send word?" I would have gone, of course, even to the ends of the earth and she knew it too But no, she had not wanted me. And now there was Sobha.....

The gate creaked behind me and I turned round. A policeman stood there.

"Looking for something, sir? "he asked politely.

"No," I said, "I was just looking at the house, it is in a sad state, constable."

"Yes, sir, "he returned, but there is nothing that can be done. The whole place is in ruins."

The desire for human companionship, to escape from the ghosts of the past which surrounded me, overwhelmed me and I said softly, "It used to be my home once."

"Indeed, sir," he said surprised, "It was a fine house, I remember. My father was walking this very beat when it was built. He used to talk about it sometimes."

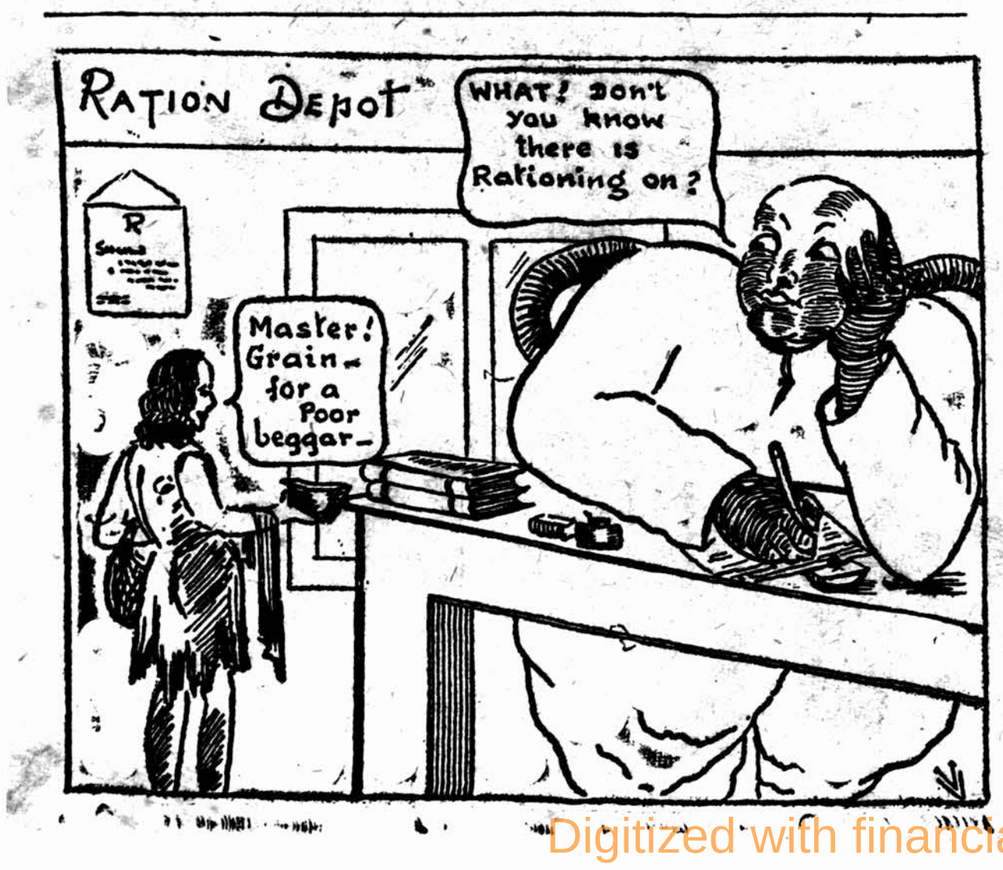
He opened the gate, came in and seated himself on the stone seat. "I was here when the first bomb fell," he said, "It fell in the garden. The whole house shook with its explosion." He paused and continued as if struck by a new thought, "And it is a funny thing, sir, when you come to think of it, that room there has somehow managed to stand in its place all the time. The rest of the house, as you see, has gone completely."

"I suppose it is strange," I said thoughtfully, "To me it seems just the way it should be. You know the history of that room, constable? If only its walls could speak! They would say strange things. You know ever since that house was built, that room has in turn been the sick room, the bridal room, the nursery, the school room.....

Memories..... memories..... I was hunted by them.

"I well remember," I continued "Raghu died, there. He was the son of the lady who built this house, the wife of the District Judge. He was a friend of mine, a lovable fellow. His mother doted on him. I remember they called in Dr. K.C. Ghosh all the way from Calcutta to attend on him. I was there when he died, constable, and I know he wanted to live. He was young and had so much to live for.

(Continued on Page 23)



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National Efficiency & Scientific Education

By

Taraknath Das,

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Since the publication of the article "Education of Indians in Foreign Countries" by Mr. G. J. Watumull and myself in the Bombay Chronicle and also my article, "Open Letter to the Government of India etc." in the Modern Review of January 1946, I have received many letters including a communication from the Deputy Secretary to the Government of India who has sent me a copy of the text of the speech of Hon. Sardar Jogendra Singh, delivered on January 24, 1946, at the opening of the Twelfth Meeting of the Central Advisory Board of Education in India. I am gratified to see that there is some interest among the Indian public regarding the vital problem of raising national efficiency through education.

However, at the very outset, I must say that I am disappointed to notice that there is no sign of the end of the flow of immature and ordinary Indian students for American universities. Majority of these students are from Bombay presidency where *apparently money is plentiful to be spent in foreign countries. Majority of these students are ordinary graduates of Indian universities* and some of them are even under-graduates and thus fail to meet the requirements of the best American universities. Most of them have no idea of what they will do after returning to India. But all of them want to have some kind of "American degree" in Engineering or Agriculture as soon so possible, and if possible some practical training; and they must accomplish these things quickly so that they will be able to return home soon and get a good job.

INVARIABLE REPLY

I have asked many students—recent arrivals—the following question: "Why did you not finish your Engineering studies in India?" Invariably, I have received the following answer in substance: India has no up-to-date facilities for the best type of scientific and engineering education and an Indian student will be able to learn more in two years in an American University than they may learn in India in four years.

To be sure India has not the same facilities for higher technical education as one will find in the United States of America. But I contend that there are pretty good Engineering Colleges—Benares Hindu University, Aligharh Moslem University, the College of Engineering and Technology at Jadavpur, Bengal and other institutions accredited to Indian universities---and Indian students should finish their introductory studies in these institutions and then "only the most promising graduates should go to foreign countries, specially the United States, for higher studies and to prepare themselves for teachers of those subjects which are not taught in Indian universities and technical institutions." This is the cheapest and the best method, to raise the standard of Indian institutions in the field of technical education

Rich Indian parents and those who are from the upper middle class think that their America-educated sons and daughters will get better jobs and have a new type of high social standing even they only pass their American university examinations with third class rating. Thus they are willing to send their wards to American universities for three to four years, spending at least twenty-five thousand rupees and at the same time they do not show any intelligent and active interest in building up Indian Universities to the standard of the best in the world. In this connection I may say that many of India's esteemed educators are pursing this policy of training their sons and daughters in foreign countries and not doing their share for bettering higher educational facilities in India.

OUR OWN RESPONSIBILITY

In answer to my question about the reason for the inferiority of Indian educational institutions, I am told by Indian students that it is due to the policy of the British government. I must confess that I cannot altogether agree with the idea of placing all the blame on the shoulders of the British Government. I believe that the Government, the university authorities, including the professors, Indian financial and business leaders and Indian politicians are to blame for the present situation.

After reading Hon. Jogendra Singh's speech, I have no reason to change my views expressed in my two articles especially what I had to say in my "Open Letter to the Government of India."

I still hold that the present experiment in the dark of sending 1,000 (one thousand) students annually to the United States and the United Kingdom for five years is wasteful and will not help raising the standard of national efficiency. It will create a new job-hunting class who has been guaranteed the salary of gazetted class officers for 5 years.

In five years for education of 5,000 Indian students in foreign lands will cost poor India—ultimately poor Indian tax-payers—no less than five crores of rupees.

This is a pretty large sum to be spent in foreign countries just to create a class, a new type of job-hunters. I say this deliberately, because most of the Government of India students or provincial government students do not know what they will do after they return to India, except they will have some kind of job. The Education Advisor of the Government of India, stationed at Washington does not know what should be done with these students, but to get them admitted to some universities to study some technical subjects. It is just like the blind leading the blind.

FAR BETTER INVESTMENT

I contend that if five Crores of rupees, or more which will be spent for 5,000 students—mostly from the priviledged class—, were spent in India for the purpose of equipping the existing institutions with up-to date laboratories, endowing them with new professorships, hiring the best professors from any part of the world for five years' contracts and teach their respective subjects and also sending a few of the best young professors to carry on higher studies and researches in the best institutions abroad with a definite assurance that they will continue to teach after their return to India, then the capital investment of this sum (five crores) would have aided Indian Universities to raise their standards. It would have created in India facilities for the highest type of education of the present and future generations of India (not for 5.000 students for five years only) but for hundreds of thousands of most deserving students from all classes specially poor classes. The present policy as adopted by the Government of India is not only extravagant but unpractical and it is to be hoped the Advisory Committee will reconsider it.

I am inclined to believe that thee Committees appointed by the Government of India for educational development are composed of Indian politicians, businessmen and educators who may mean well; but they have not accomplished much of the real work. I may say they will spend lots of money for various purposes, but they will accomplish little unless they act intelligently and adopt effective measures to improve the efficiency of existing institutions in India.

In this topical and thought-provoking contribution Dr. Taraknath Das further develops the suggestions he had made in a previous article (B.C. Weekly, September 30, 1945). He severely criticises the Government of India for blindly spending crores of rupees of public money in sending students abroad for higher education. This will not raise the standard of national efficiency. It will only create a new job-hunting class.

The money can be far better utilised by raising the standard of higher education in India itself, in equipping and modernising our Universities and also in bringing foreign experts to coach up our students in our own country... National efficiency depends on the co-ordination of the Government, industries and the Universities. Will they devise a long-term plan?

SOVIET EXAMPLE

Fundamental researches must be carried on in India in Indian universities and Technical Institutes, under the direction of world's best scientists—Indian and foreign. In this connection I wish to draw the attention of Indian leaders, educators and officials the following news-items published in the American press:—

"Moscow, March 24. (A. P)—The Government newspaper "Izvestia" said today Russia would spend hundreds of millions of rubbles during the next five years on the ambitious scientific program which includes intensive study of atomic energy and investigation of the possibility of cosmic rays.

"Izvestia, in a leading editorial. and special article by Sergei I. Vavilov, President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, outlined as follows the objectives in the new five year plan for Russian scientists: Work out problems of atomic energy: solve more of the mysteries of cosmic rays; discover more about areodynamics and airplane-wing building, discover more about technique of applying gasodynamics to achieve speed in aviation and artillery projectiles.

"The physical-mathematical sciences in our plan present us a series of problems connected with the study of atomic nucleus and of cosmic rys, Valvilov wrote.

"Millions of rubbles will be spent during the five years on unversities and on homes and facilities for the scientists, Izvestia said, madding that the Communist party and the country are coming to the aid of the scientists in order that their work will be more fruitful."

The New York Sun of March 20, 1946 disclosed that a large number of German scientists have been brought to the United States by the United States Government. Thus Soviet Russia is going to spend hundreds of millions of rubbles to develop Soviet Universities and create facilities in Soviet Russia for scientific researches of all kinds. The United States Government has already brought several hundred German scientists to carry on researches in the United States. Instead of following these plans, the Government of India's Educational Committee has started in spending crores of rupees to train several thousand new job-holders in foreign universities. I again urge that several crores of rupees should be spent to develop facilities for higher studies in India.

FOREIGN EXPERTS

I am sure some of the government officials and Indian leaders will point out that in course of time they will build a new M. I. T. in India. It is wonderful to play with the idea of building a new University; but it will take years to carry out the scheme and it will cost a vast sum; but a few crores of rupees, if distributed to develop facilities for higher studies in existing institutions, then it will be more fruitful and less costly for India. In this connection I must emphasise that if India cannot supply proper experts for new scientific studies, they will have to hire foreign experts as Tata Steel Company used foreign experts at the beginning and it has in course of time have replaced these experts by Indian scientists.

It is generally assumed that Indian students who are being sent to Great Britain and America will be used in industrial development of the country and the government will use them for development of hydro-electric projects etc. I do not deny that a large number of them will be useful to India in some form or other. But according to my judgment, if the Government of India starts—not merely debates and passes resolution—any serious development project such as the Damodar Valley Dam project, them it will be wiser and better for India to hire the best available American Engineer to act as Chief Engineer who should be assisted by scores of Indian engineers who may be products of Indian Universities, gaining experience in working in connection with the project.

Russia followed this plan in the development of Dnieper River plan and trained in Russia thousands of hydraulic engineers. Russia developed her steel industries, tractor industries, etc. with the help of foreign exports who worked for Russia and trained Russians in Russia

ACADEMIC STAGNATION

I must register my views that Indian educators are also to blame for the present condition of backwardness of Indian institutions. Many Indian professors, after getting a permanent job which often draws higher salary than professors get in France and Japan, do not carry on higher studies and research work. Some of them become mere job-holders and they become afraid lest some of the younger members of the staff would try to establish higher standard of efficiency which may be a source of trouble.

They prefer "status quo" and try to control the policy and administration of the institution for the security of their position and they check any possibility of development of efficiency of the institution. The

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An Indian Revolutionary In Tashkent

By Shaukat Usman

Author Of 'Peshawar To Moscow'

Mr. Shaukat Usman resumes here his account of the fateful odyssey which a group of Indian Revolutionaries embarked upon in the early twenties. The first two parts of the series were published in the issues of B. C. Weekly of the 21st and 28th of October last year.

The Soviet Revolution was an international revolution. It covered broad principles. It pledged the liberation of the entire mankind from slavery and the thraldom of the Finance Capital. It pledged to liberate the colonial slaves. It pledged the workers of the world an international communist society. It promised freedom from want and need.

Its promises were not flat. They were pithy and fruitful. What they pledged they tried to carry through. The Tzarist concessions in China and Iran were annulled in one strock of pen. The occupation of Persia, of its northern parts according to the division treaty of Persia of 1907 between Russia and Britain was done away with. On the contrary Persia was promised armed help in the event of her needing it against any foreign aggression. Dr. Syed Zia Uddin's Regime of 1919 which negotiated an economic concession to British Finance Capital was swept away with the help of the Soviet.

Turkey was given all facilities of recruitment of the Muslim volunteers from the Soviet territory and arm and ammunit'on flowed in abundance into Kemalist Turkey from the USSR. All that Mustafa Kemal required for defeating the Greeks he got from the Soviet. The Kemalist regime was further obliged by the Soviet beneficial treatment in the cessation of territory of America and Russia the cities of Kars and Ardhan.

All this was done to a friendly Turkey. Soviet Russia is now demanding the return of the said territories. It is because of the attitude that Turkey adopted during some part of this war. She was pro-Anglo-French it is surmised in the beginning of the war and pro-German during the 1942-43 period. It is alleged that Turkey allowed and connived at the Anglo-French military aviation reconnaissance of Baku oil-fields during the first phase of the World war II and that she wilfully allowed passage to the German troopships and warships through the Straits.

Moreover the Soviet gave all possible help to Afghanistan and her very independence was guarded by her. A subsidy of some 14 lacs of gold Roubles was granted to Amanullah regime to help Afghanistan to develop industrially and carry through the administration smoothly.

What the Soviet pledged to do during the revolution they carried through as much as they could after it. They established Oriental Universities at Tashkent, Moscow for the Indian and Chinese as also the other estern peoples. They founded a university at Baku for the Persian. They established the Military School at Tashkent for the Indians and when it was closed down they gave them the Kut V Institute at Moscow. All these were after all the efforts at world liberation. In later years they founded the Leader Training University known as Marx-Angels Institute at Moscow

WHEN INDIA LOOKED TO RUSSIA

These efforts failed through no faults of the Soviet Union. Later the policy of the Soviet turned to consolidation of Socialism in USSR to serve as a lesson for other states and colonial dependencies. What the people generally regard as the steps of retrogression for example by the liquidation of the Comintern (Communist International) etc;. by the Soviet and world communist leadership, the leadership regard as the dissolution of an obsolete organisation. To us the Colonial people it was not obsolete. It was the beacon light pointing forward to our goal. People cannot charge the Soviet for the dissolution of the Comin-ter It was in a way result of the American pressure wrought through the Davies Mission which was the harbinger of the opening of the second front against the Fascist Powers and the consequent defeat of their adversary.

The Soviet Policy of 1919-22 period sent a thrill throughout our country It won over a considerable section of the petty bourgeos intelligentsia and the radical wing of the Indian National Congress. It made late Syt. Das to think endearingly of the Soviet and think also of negotiating with that power. I cannot be contradicted here by any one except Syt. Subhas Chandra Bose and if he is alive he can refute this if he so likes. I will not be provoked into disclosing some of our Indian political leaders, some of them now out of the Congress, who wanted to deal with the Soviet Union over the head of Gandhiji. It is speaking as they say—too much from a small mouth. Time again will throw open what I am concealing here to-day. If tortures at Burji Hari Singh, at Abbottaabad and Peshwar Thanas could not get out of me what I am fearlessly writing (with some reservations) today, no cajolry or pressure or pursuasion can force me to tell here more than what is necessary.

SOVIET PEOPLES' SYMPATHIES WITH INDIA

The Soviet sympathies with India are not to be searched in 'The Pravada', "The Izvestia' and 'The War and the Working Class' of 1939 to 1944. era. For them one has to go back to the years 1929 to 1927. Read the Thee Druff These, The Draft Programs, The Manifestoes and the Annual Messages to the Indian National Congress Sessions and, you will find an abundance of that sympathy, expressed in explicit terms.

To accuse the Soviet during a War and expect sympathy when they have defeated their enemies through their own efforts unaided by even a propaganda in their favour from you is a queer expectation by a particular section of the Indian nationalist press.

A considerable section of the Indian populace was ardently expecting a Soviet attack on India; they honestly dreamt of Uzbeck Divisions furrowing in the northing plains of India. These hopes all crashed on 22nd JUNE 1941.

Since, that date the Soviet has become to many a dead symbol which will not do or risk anything for the freedom of India. This disillusionment is good in many ways. It will open the eyes of many of us who had been hopelessly waiting for the Soviet aid. Soviet aid for India is finished for all time. The Military ally of Britain can only be an ideological ally of Indian people but not of any practical use. Nothoig could convince me till 22nd of June 1941 that the Soviet will not aid us, similarly nothing now can convince me that it will ever aid India. Today our allies are to be sought elsewhere These allies are to be sought in the slums of Paris. Marseilles, Berlin, Hamburg, Dresdon, Amsterdom, Rome, Geneva, Lisbon, Tokio, Chicago, Mexico, Shanghai, Chunking, Peking, Nanking' Capetown, Toronto, in the workers of Moscow and Leningrad, the miners of England, any new International of the revolutionery workers of the world to be built or already built on the best traditions of the 1st, 2nd or the 3rd International, and above all the colonial slaves of Africa, Indonesia, Indochina, and the Arab world ever struggling for their freedom. They can be our real allies

TASHKENT IN SPRING

We are rambling too much away here, we have to revert back to Tashkent again though this description does arise out of thr earlier period of the Russian Revolution with which we are dealing and of which the Tashkent Military School was only a passing phase and the first start practical Government. sympathy with Indian freedom movement.

With spring season there came a change in Tashkent. Everywhere in the streets, roads and parks and boulardes and boys, adults and old all were seen walking with a rose, a beautiful flower of some kind or other and mostly a twig or branch with leaves. It was the Turkestan fashion. To us the Indians, it looked quite a strange phenomenon as we have had plenty of verdure in our country throughout the year but this good contagion caught many of us too.

In Afghanistan people are often seen with roses held in between their teeth spreading like red fungus on their faces. This fashion of course we did not adopt.

In India either of these vogues would be laughed out, but in these climes where 6 months out of twelve the greens are scarce and it is snowing with leafless stark trees standing here and there begging for of the sun a sprout, it is quite natural of course.

SOCIAL LIFE IN TASHKENT

We, who did not know Turkish or Russian had to face great difficulties in the market, social places etc. Quite automatically rather naturally we learnt the language in the Bazars in this way. We used to touch or point to a commodity, learn the name from the dealers, repeat the same and learn it by heart. Those who went too much to the markets and social places became expert linguists earlier than others. They picked up Russian and Turkestani languages with ease, We were of course taught Russian by tutors also and those in Military School got regular lessons in languages. We three got ours at Moscow from an old lady teacher. By and by some of us picked up our own tutors and Comrade Abdul Majid of Lahore was the cleverest of us all to form a family friendship with the family of a Baron (a General in the Tsarist Army) whose two daughters Olga and Shura fought and did so well in this World War No. 2.

We other two benifitted by Majid's acquaintance. We were often treated to tea by the mother whom abdul Majid also addressed as his mother. We often prepared Halva there with bread crumbs. Once our Halva went to M. Borodin and the deceased Comrede Eveln Roy. They relished it and they asked for more of it. Mr. M. N. Roy also got his share and in return he gave us quiet a nice dish of fish when back to Tashkent. Mukerjee and he both were good Bengalee cooks. Mukerjee was always to be found in the kitchen.

THE TURKESTANIANS TAKE INTEREST

The Turkestanians took sufficient interest in the freedom movement of India. People from far off Kashgar groaning under the yoke of a Khan puppet of British imperialism, contacted our Bureau at Andijan and after the dissolution of that Bureau they contacted us at Tashkent and worked hand in hand with the Indian elements. One of the prominent men in Turkestan who took keen interest was the 19th or 20th or 21st decendent of Babur. I still remember his jokes about India, his claim in jest to the Indian throne

The Turkestanians could not understand the attitude of the Indian Musalmans and they will never in the future as the separationist tendencies of our brethren are on the increase and not on the decrease. Having been for the second time abroad in 1928 I found that the Musalmans of other countries resented the communal attitude of the Muslims of India.

According to them the Muslims of India even if they wanted to be seperate they could form autonomous republics and that could only be possible after they had jointly or singly worked for the independence of the country Any talk of the division of India into Communal Provinces under a foreign Imperialism was an impossibility. Moreover Britain would not tolerate the separation of the Indian Muslims into a separate entirely on the northern borders of India. Indians of whatever religion they be will gain nothing under a foreign imperialist Power. The remedy is independence and thereafter the establishment of homogeneous autonomous republics. And this can be more natural on linguistic and racial basis than on the communal one. The Bengalee Muslim has too much in common with his neighbour non-Muslim than he has with a U.P.man or a Punjabee or a Pathan. If the yoke or foreign imperialism is lifted the country divided into autonomous socialist states there will be too little cause of complaint by any of the aggrieved communities as there would be equal opportunities for all. This is their view, view of all the Muslims beyond Indian frontiers. They point to the Soviet solution of the Jewish, Muslim and Russian problems of the USSR. The country is split into separate autonomous republics based on the linguistic and cultural basis, there are equal opportunities for all. The scourge of capitalism the root of all exploitation is done away with and hence there is no cause of complaint by any one of the citizens what of communities. This was the position there.

JOURNEY TO THE CAPITAL

To come back to our studies, we three in the company of Mr. M. N. Roy Mr. Abeni Mukerjee, Mr. Mohd. Ali Sepassi and Evelyn Roy left for Moscow in the second week of January 1920. We left in a Minarodnaya car (International touring car) which are much better than the Indian first class compartment. The compartments are split into coupes with an accommodation for four each and sometimes for two only. These coupes are just like small moving rooms very comfortable to the degree that they carry a bath with them. All of course do not contain bath. Our coupe did not. These coupes are very comfortable. Travellers in them do not require cusions, blankts, pillows or bedsheets. The coupes are self-sufficient in their equipment

There is an old Indian saying (U.P.) that a 'new convert Muslim eats too much of onion'. I have put it mildly. Frontal attack by the protagonists of any political philosophy against the old beliefs brings such an idealist propagandist to grief. One of the party in the journey unnecessarily attacked our religious susceptibilities and thus antagonised us. But after our studies in Moscow when we saw the light we realised the absurdity of many of these beliefs which went in the name of religion and castes stood no where near the religion. It is so much not the beliefs which count it is the wrong way of assailing them. A true propagandist or rather a correct propagandist will always lay down the good sides of his beliefs and programme without indulging in any attack which wound the sentiments of his audience. This propagandist was a Muslim gentleman. He annoyed us so much that some of us at least thought better to return to Tashkent them to go to Moscow in such company.

THE FIRST SIGHT OF MOSCOW

It was night that we reached Moscow and the journey to Hotel-De-Luxe was not very pleasing As motors were waiting for us on the Moscow station but we got a queer vehicle, a load carrier, looking like rafts spread on a sledge.

In the morning we moved about in the streets of Moscow, the city of 1000 and odd Churches with [illegible] domes and golden

(Continued on Page 6)

OUR EXCLUSIVE FEATURE

Do all Americans live in lap of luxury? . . . Does anybody die of starvation in U. S. A. . . . . Is Indian Literature and Philosophy known in U. S.? . . .

***Are all American girls flirts? . . . Is there too much liberty for libertines? . . . . What can the spiritual East teach to the Technical west?* .**

These are some of the queries that Pearl Buck tries to answer here.

Pearl Buck Answers Readers' Questions

The first of your questions sent directly to me came in this mornings mail, and I was especially glad to receive them just before I sat down to write this article.

Our rural postman brought the letters in and he was much interested in the Indian stamps. He is a young veteran who has taken the place of our old postman, who retired when the war ended. I have a great admiration for our rural postmen who carry the mail to every little village and back roads home. Any farmer can have his mail brought to him if he puts up a regulation mail box on the roadside nearest his house. The box is of metal and he can buy it cheaply and set it on a post. Letters to be mailed he can also deposit in them and the postman takes them along with him.

It is a comment on our people that the contents of a mailbox seem quite safe, although unlocked. This honesty I attribute not to morals but to the fact that our people are well fed and do not lack the necessities of life. The status of morals in any country has a direct relation to food.

LAP OF LUXURY

Most of your questions concern the life of our villagers. Our villagers are certainly not poor in the same sense that yours are. By your standards ours are not poor at all. Our villages have comfortable homes of four to six or eight rooms. They have heat in winter, adequate clothing, plenty of food. Conditions do vary. In the South where there are many Negro peoples the standard of living is much lower, and there are regions where the diet is poor, although this is not always due to lack so much as to wrong habits of eating. Knowing what poverty is in India, I can only say that here we have really very few poor people. Knowing also what wealth is in India, I must equally truthfully say that your rich people live far more extravagantly even than ours do, generally speaking.

Your extremes are greater than ours. But of course the extent of your poverty is unnecessary and must be mended quickly when you obtain your freedom.

We have plenty of hospitals and our farmers, or villagers, can pay for nearly all the medical help they need. Just now there are being developed many hospital insurance plans, whereby through each family or group paying a small annual fee a certain amount of hospital care is provided for

A TYPICAL VILLAGE

From some of your letters I see I have not made clear the fact that our villagers are not the same as our farmers. Our farmers live on their own farms, or land, and their homes are therefore at a distance from one another. The villages are only very small towns. Let me give you our nearest village as an example. It has about three hundred people in it, and some fifty houses. The villagers are mostly retired farmers and workers in the two small factories, one a pants factory and the other a hosiery factory. Men and women both work in these factories. The village has two garages, where motor cars are repaired, an inn, two stores selling food and goods of all kinds, and a two room country school. There is a church and an undertaker's business

A young doctor has just set up his office in our village, too. He is a war veteran. You will see that these villagers are working people of all sorts. They all have had education of at least six years, since this is the law of our state, and many have more than that. In our community, and it is average, there is as yet no unemployment. There was unemployment during the depression when one of the factories closed and the other was open only half time.

I answer one of your questions bluntly. No, none dies of starvation here in the United States, and none shares the food of the street dogs. I have during the great depression seen a few miserable persons robbing garbage pails in New York City. But I saw also long lines of people there getting free bread and coffee. Relief was provided, now of course, no one is hungry for everyone is working.

It is my conviction that no one in this world needs to starve. That some do starve is due to badly organized production and distribution and to a callous upper class and a selfish government.

COLOSSAL IGNORANCE ABOUT INDIA

I answer another question. American people do not think of India very much in any way. They feel somewhat hopeless because they think it is so big and so crowded with people. They think of its problems as immense. They do not feel near to India nor do they understand her nor do they see what they have to do with all these problems. They are under the impression that quarrelling goes on between religious groups. In short, they are almost totally ignorant of India and her people. I have already explained in previous articles why this is so. Censorship and propaganda have kept our people separate from yours. I must stress again how unfortunate has been the effect upon our people of hearing the propaganda of empire from paid Indians sent into this country.

Of course our educated people know the name of Rabindranath Tagore, and a few know of Swami Vivekananda, but Indian literature and philosophy are generally unknown and have had no influence on us. Jawaharlal Nehru is well known through his very fine books and also through his being a political leader. Mahatma Gandhi is best known, perhaps, but not at all understood.

A VAGUE SYMPATHY

Most Americans, however, vague their knowledge, do feel, I think, that somehow India ought to be independent. This is because we really dislike the idea of one people being ruled by another. But our people have no suggestions of how freedom can be given to India, because they have heard too much of the British point of view, and consider that the problems of India are too vast.

The G.I.s are bringing back very mixed reports, of course. Those who were able to find Indian friends and really get into the life of the people, even to a small degree, come back warm friends of India and with eager wishes to persuade our people to be friendly and interested in India also. Those who were not fortunate enough to have frierds among Indians—and little opportunity apparently was given them for this—these, sad to say, come back with little knowledge or understanding. They only saw poverty and misery and are inclined to blame the people themselves

AND GENERAL ANTIPATHY

Our people were not sympathetic with the British actions in Indonesia in so far as they knew what was going on. It may be taken as a general fact that while our average people prefer to have all other peoples independent and self-ruling, we are not much inclined to take any active part in bringing this condition about, partly because we do not know those other peoples and do not know how to help them. If and when the United Nations Organization gets into real action, I believe that the influence of the United States will be towards freedom for all peoples, unless some of our great business interests become too involved in shaping our foreign policies.

You would have been encouraged had you been here this week to hear the many criticisms and see the many unfavourable comments showered upon Winston Churchill when he proposed a special alliance between Great Britain and ourselves. There were those also in favour, but the great mass of feeling was certainly against any such special alliance and for continuing to the full the cooperation in the United Nations Organization.

THE QUESTION OF MORALS

Your many questions about marriage and divorce in our country and about family relations I shall take up in another article, when I discuss the American Home. I shall mention only one point which has come to me in many of your letters. You ask me which is the real America, the one of which I have written or the corrupt, wild, extravagant one of which you have heard many stories and seen many moving pictures.

I have been painting for you, so far, the life of the common man and woman here, the average citizen. It is a good life, generally speaking, and while there are hardships in individual families, these are due to specific causes rather than to national conditions. You have perhaps seen an entirely different picture of America through the fantasies of motion pictures made in Hollywood. There are here, as in every country, persons who are immoral, evil, selfish, extravagant. They are in the minority here as elsewhere, but we have them. Ours is a remarkably free country, and to citizens of other countries it may seem we are very lax. There are dance halls, as you say, but these dance halls are not all evil places. Indeed, most of them are rather strict, the managers and the police see to that. Indecent behaviour is not allowed. Dancing is as much a part of American life as football is, and we have long been used to free mingling of our young men and women in games and amusements, as well as in home life

Knowing the strict segregation of the sexes in many other countries I must here say clearly that the comraderie between our young men and women does not mean what is called free love. In a census recently taken among many thousands of our young people over eighty per cent of our young women believed in premarital chastity, both for the man and the woman

The average girl here is as careful of her chastity as her sister in any country. She is proud to be a virgin when she marries. There are of course also the others who are different but I am speaking of the average. I must remind you that we are accustomed to the mingling of the sexes in all walks and occupations of life. Our children go to school together from the first day they begin their education, and this in itself means that the emphasis in their work and play is not upon sex.

At the same time, it must be said that those who are perverted or morbid have opportunity here which they would not have in some other countries, because of the freedom of our life.

GOOD AND EVIL INTERMINGLE

In short, America, like all other countries, cannot be judged by any single standard. Everything can be found here, both of good and evil, but certain large principles can be laid down. Our people are a healthy-minded, astonishingly clean-minded people. We are non-intellectual, on the whole. Certainly we are crude, considered by the standards of older peoples, such as the Chinese, whose ancient civilization has somehow permeated to the very peasant himself. We are amusingly and dangerously ignorant concerning other peoples and countries. Our long isolation has made us so. Our system of education has been affected by this isolation, so that our children, even when they graduate from college, have a very faulty and inadequate idea of the world and its peoples.

This ignorance, reaching to the highest seats of government in Washington, as well as to the average citizen, who has the vote, has been mainly responsible for many absurdities in our foreign policy, and certainly was responsible for the foolish and wrong acts which some of our G.I.s committed on foreign soil, and of which officers and others higher up were also guilty.

WANTED MORE AMBASSADORS

Are we doing anything to mend this ignorance? Well, at least we are beginning to realize dimly that we ought to know more about other peoples if we are to function sensibly in a United Nations Organization. For this I earnestly ask your help. Please send us, somehow, some of your good citizens to tell us the truth about your people and their thoughts and feelings and ways of life. All good people from your country have been warmly welcomed here. Thousands and thousands of people listened to Madame Vijaylaxmi Pandit, and her beautiful and cultivated appearance as well as her excellent remarks, won many friends for India. Time and again I heard Americans say, "I didn't know there was anybody in India like her." We do not see enough people from India.

I could perhaps sum up everything by saying our ignorance has put us into a vacuum about India.

(Continued on Page 6)

Contributions Invited

The "Bombay Chronicle Weekly" invites original contributions, cartoons and topical photographs from its readers. Short stories and humorous articles will be particularly appreciated. Mss. should be typewritten and between 1,500 and 2,000 words in length.

All contributions and photographs which are accepted for publication will be paid for handsomely.

Rejected contributions will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped and self-addressed envelope. No correspondence can be entertained regarding this.

"GUIDEWAYS"

New System Of Transport For Rural Areas

By V. C.

In a country of the size and physical character of India, the agricultural occupation of the vast majority of its inhabitants demands cheap, rapid transport.

At this stage in the country's history the very difficult questions of co-ordination and sufficiency of transport would have been found far easier had "Guideways" been in operation.

"Guideways" is a system of transport for passengers and goods. It is the invention of Mr. Clifford Skelton, Engineer, who was born in India and whose knowledge and understanding of the transport problems of India, as well as of the country itself, led to the invention in 1927 of this rapid, safe, comfortable and economical means of transport.

A Combination

"Guideways" combines the road and railway systems. It takes the essentials of both while eliminating the expensive elements of each. The heavy rolling stock are the very costly equipment of railways while renewal of sleepers is a constantly recurring cost. The great width of motor roads, together with their upkeep, makes their cost prohibitive for rural areas anywhere, more so in India. Both these existing systems take up a large amount of cultivable land. By utilising the style of the railway vehicle, with the wheels under the body, the width required for the running road was brought to half of that of the vehicle travelling over it.

By using a single rail as a guide. Mr. Skelton was able to eliminate most of the expensive parts of the railway. As a road surface was to be used it was necessary to have the best. This decided the inventor's choice in favour of cement, which gave the least resistance to the rubber tyres, and to ensure smooth, quiet running for the passengers.

Mr. Skelton chose rubber tyres for "Guideways" due to the important fact that the grip of the rubber tyre on the road surface is eight times greater than that of the steel wheel on the steel rail while the rolling resistance is only about twice as great.

Because "Guideways" uses a specially made track with a special grade, it means that their locomotives cannot only haul heavy loads to the full hauling capacity of the engine installed in them, but that a locomotive fitted with, say, a Ford v8 unit can haul the equivalent about 11 ordinary motor lorries.

Economy Of Construction

The "Guideways" road being so narrow allows of great economy in construction. The bridges are only required to be 3 and 4 feet wide.

The whole idea of "Guideways" is economy for the rural areas of India. It was planned to carry the people who live out in the 'blue' and their produce quickly and cheaply across the vast expanses. Air-conditioned coaches can be built for "Guideways" and would make travelling very pleasant indeed

"Guideways' has been examined, tested, approved of and passed for carrying passengers and goods, by the Government of India (Railway Board) and also by the Government of Bombay.

The invention was not allowed to rest in its original form, for the inventor improved his plans from occasion to occasion, keeping them in line with the times, the while he made herculean efforts to have his method of transport accepted and laid down in India, the India that was the land of his birth and for whose needs he had invented the system, the necessity for which he had first seen in the great famine of 1899-1900.

All the inventor's efforts to establish "Guideways" failed miserably and heart-breakingly, because of virulent opposition from vested interests, to wit, railways and motors.

In 1937 the popular Government came into power in India and the idea of rapid, economical rural transport was taken up by the Bombay Government

Facilities were given to Mr. Skelton by the Hon. Mr. M. Y. Nurie, then Minister for Public Works in the Government of Bombay, to manufacture a locomotive and carriage in the workshops of the Government at Dapuri, near Poona and to lay a track, to demonstrate to the Government of Bombay the efficiency of the new transport system.

At the demonstration, where the chief engineers of the different railways and the Government of Bombay were present, "Guideways" received their praise and approval. It was unanimously agreed that a great and long-felt need had at last been met. It was realised that, in fair weather or pouring rain, "Guideways" could bring the villagers and the produce from the wide country sides to the railway stations and markets.

The inventor seem to have achieved his goal at last.

The Bombay Presidency was to have the new transport system. Arrangements were set on foot for giving "Guideways" a trial on a large scale. Everyone looked forward to the day when the invention would revolutionise the ways of transport.

Then came the war.

The popular Government went out and the question of Rural Transport remained with the bullock-carts and buses.

Beginning In Jamnagar

But efficient transport is the initial letter of development and no post-war planning can be considered worthy of the name if transport and communications are not given their due consideration and places. Many parts of India and many Indian States are woefully lacking in means of speedy and efficient transport and communication.

During the war Mr. Skelton offered his "Guideways" to the War Department of India, but he was told to get a sufficient length of the system running, in order to prove its claims, and that then the matter would receive consideration. It was definitely impossible for a working engineer to build such a length in war-time for exhibition to the military. Instituting the system now seemed farther away than ever, and had it not been for the far-sightedness of His Highness the Maharajah Jam Sahib of Nawanagar, whose understanding of the country's needs led him to sponsor the laying down of "Guideways" in his State, the system might still have been an engineer's dream, instead of a reality.

But now, due to the sympathetic approach of His Highness to this invention, "Guideways" is to operate from Khambalia in Jamnagar State. The villagers and towns people to be served by the new system are happy that, for them, the back-breaking journeys by bullock-carts are no longer to be a matter of course.

As has been pointed out, "Guideways" is cheap to instal, maintain and operate. It carries at the very lowest possible rates. It provides smooth, comfortable and quiet travelling.

As "Guideways" stretches out to bind village to village and province to province it will give, simultaneously, employment to thousands of people in the same manner as work is given to very large numbers by the railways. This is one of the glad hopes beyond the realisation of the vision.

National Efficiency And Scientific Education

(Continued from Page 3)

only way to remove this impediment is that the authorities must weed out less efficient members of the teaching staffs of all Indian institutions of higher education to make room for the most efficient. Then the promotion of an instructor must depend upon productive work in his own field, and not merely on the basis of seniority.

Because of the lack of efficiency among those who are supposed to carry on research in Indian technical institutions, when Indian industrialists seek co-operation of Indian universities or technical institutions for the solution of certain concrete problems, they do not get efficient service. At least this is the complaint of many industrialists from India whom I have met in the United States. For this reason and also for selfish reasons of mere profit motive (not to spend money for any project which will not immediately give higher rate of profit) Indian industrialists do not do their share to co-operate with Indian universities.

CO-ORDINATION NECESSARY

Some of the industrial concerns of India are toying with the idea of having their own laboratories for research purposes, without co-operating with the universities. To be sure, industries must have their own research facilities; but no industry can carry on all researches in their factories. Such giant concerns as General Motors, Du Pont, Eastman Kodak, American Telegraph and Telephone, Radio Corporation of America and others spend hundreds of millions of dollars for research; but these Corporations aid universities so that these institutions will produce men and women of great efficiency.

Thus Du Pont Company, which spends tens of millions of dollars annually for its own research laboratories will spend a sum of two hundred thousand dollars (twice as much as last year) for aiding certain universities with fellowships.

To increase Indian national efficiency there must be facilities for highest type of education in India. This must be furthered by the Government, industries as well as the Universities in full partnership in their joint responsibilities. Without the highest type of scholarship in universities, industries and the Government cannot raise the standard of national efficiency. The Universities, without financial support from the government and the industries cannot do its share most effectively. National efficiency of all great nations are being developed through the co-ordination of these three agencies, and India must follow the same path.

PEARL BUCK ANSWERS READERS' QUESTIONS

(Continued from Page 5)

It remains to be seen how this vacuum will be filled, and some of the responsibility lies with you, too.

UNO AND THE WORLD MIND

What we all need, of course, is a new attitude of mind as we enter together upon a new world life. The United Nations Organization can only succeed if the representatives we all send there can have a world mind. If they come merely as representatives of their respective peoples, eager to get what they can for their own, the organization will fail. Only if they come ready and able to think in terms of world need and world supply will a true cooperative world life begin. Hunger in India is exactly as important as hunger in Europe, and must be dealt with in exactly the same proportion. Illiteracy in China is as important as illiteracy in the United States. Three fourths of the world's people are lacking in the basic necessities of life. How can we organize the world supplies, present and potential, so as to satisfy this worldwide need? This is the attitude which must somehow prevail. And whenever a people thinks only in terms of its own group, it prevents to that degree the better world for all.

When I consider the peoples as I know them, I realize that this world attitude is easier for the peoples of Asia than it is for the peoples of the West. The religions and the philosophies of Asia have long taught the universal point of view. Therefore it may be that it is you of the East who must stress for us of the West the primary the necessity that all men are equal and all are to be considered. With this point of view established, it need not be long before techniques can be set up for the world supply. The western genius is in techniques. What we need most is the world mind, out of which the conviction can form and the will proceed to action.

AN INDIAN REVOLUTIONARY IN TASHKENT

(Continued From Page 4)

They reminded one of dreamland. Sverdlov Lubyanka Ploshad all covered with snow presented themselves like big ponds. The mighty structure of the Bolshoei Theatre (The Grand Opera) over-looking the Sverdlov supplied a good background for any good drama, The Red Square, the square of the martyrs where so many sens of the Revolution are sleeping with Lenin in between them, has a unique position. Its history is above description, its vastness in the middle of the city is incomparable with any similar places in Europe and above all it stretches throughout the length of the Kremlin dying into the Moscow River. It is near the Moscova River nearby Kremlin that the Red Square terminates. Red Square or the Krasni Ploshad to term it in Russian thronged during all seasons. All military parades on May Days, the Revolution Days, as also on the Red Army Days take place here. The elite of Kremlin used to stand after 1924 on the Mausoleum of Lenin on such occasions while the rank and file of the delegates of the foreign countries sit on rows spread like the galeries of a circus spread on both sides of the Mausoleum

Bridge Notes

Winning Contract

BY HOWARD SCHENKEN AND RICHARD L. FREY

Too often a defender puts his faith in declarer's GUESSING wrong when actually a better defense would give him no chance to make his contract.

In this deal West opened the heart queen and, declarer allowed it to hold the first trick. A second heart lead was won by dummy's king and a low diamond was led. East defied the old Whist maxim by playing second-hand-high. He won the trick with the ace to lead a third heart, thereby clearing the suit while West still held a diamond stopper. Declarer could not hope to win nine tricks without establishing the diamonds, but when West got in with the diamond king his two good hearts were enough to set the contract

Suppose that East had failed to put in the diamond ace, hoping that South was leading up to a king-jack combination and would guess wrong. If West's king had taken the first diamond, he would have had no reentry to the hearts and declarer could easily make his contract Even if South were leading up to a king-jack in the diamond suit, it would be better to save West's queen as a possible reentry and spend the ace while East still had a heart to lead.

Both sides vulnerable
South dealer

NORTH
♠ A 9 2
♡ K 8
◇ 7 6 3 2
♣ Q 10 5 4

WEST
♠ J 7 4
♡ Q J 10 9 6
◇ K 8 5
♣ 7 2

EAST
♠ Q 8 5 3
♡ 7 4 2
◇ A 9
♣ J 9 6 3

SOUTH
♠ K 10 6
♡ A 5 3
◇ Q J 10 4
♣ A K 8

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 N.T.	Pass	2 N.T	Pass
3 N.T.	All Pass		

A WELSH preacher was talking to his congregation about salvation. Finally his sermon was finished, and then he said: "Now, then, Brother Smith, will you take up the collection?"

At this point an old man got up and started for the door, saying: "Parson, I thought you said salvation was free—free as the water we drink."

"Well, brother," replied the preacher, "salvation is free and water is free, but when we pipe it to you, you have to pay for the piping."

☆

"Atomic bombs!" said the man in the pub disgustedly. "I don't know what we're coming to I suppose next thing they'll discover some new bomb that'll blow this blooming world off the face of the earth!"

OIL OR EMPIRE?

What Stalin Is After In Iran

"The oil issue in North Iran is a red herring. It is a false issue which hides the real truth that in Iran Moscow is pursuing the age-long Czarist purpose of crushing the British Empire and thereby building up its own."

NEW YORK, (By Cable) '

By Louis Fischer

Sometimes a myth misleads millions of people and cannot be dislodged. The impregnability of the Maginot line distorted the thinking of the entire French nation. Large circles succumbed to the old slander that the Bolsheviks had nationalized women and introduced equality of pay. Repeat a falsehood often enough and bulldozers cannot move it. Still I will try to disprove the widespread rumour that oil is the real issue in the Russian-Iranian dispute.

Oil is not the issue.

No scientific explorations have ever been conducted in Northern Iran, the region which Moscow wants, and no oil has ever been mined there. However, oil can probably be found in it.

My first book, **Oil Imperialism**, published in 1926, dealt with the efforts of various petroleum trusts to obtain Russian and Iranian Oil concessions; since then I have followed the subject with care.

Ancient History

Anglo-Russian rivalry over Persia or Iran is ancient history. In 1901, the Anglo-Persian (Now Anglo-Iranian) Oil Company obtained the famous D'Arcy concession to large oil lands in sourthern Persia. In March 1916, Akaky M. Khostaria, a Georgian like Stalin, who was a Russian citizen, obtained from the Persian government a concession to bore oil in the five northern provinces of Persia: Azerbaijan, Ghilan, Mazandaran, Astrabad, and Khoroson.

But, as Persian Prime Minister Dowleh wrote in the London Times of December 26, 1921, the concession was obtained "under coercion by the late Czarist government and without the consent of the Medjhelis" or Persian parliament. For this reason the Soviet government asked Persia to annul the concession and in 1918 the Teheran authorities did so.

Subsequently, however, Akaky M. Khostaria sold his "Concession" to the Anglo-Persian Company. Persia did not recognize the sale and proceeded, in 1921, to grant a concession to the oil of the five northern provinces to the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. But the Anglo-Persian maintained that it had a concession, and, accordingly, as part of a give and take which included Iraq Oil, the Standard agreed to share its North Iranian rights with the Anglo-Persian. The Russians complained, and Teheran promptly cancelled the Standard's concessions.

Repeated Rebuffs

In later years, foreign companies again and again tried to obtain concessions to the oil of Northern Iran, and each time they were blocked by Russian protests to the Iranian Government.

Russia has prevented and always can prevent American and British companies from getting the oil of Northern Iran for two reasons: first the Russo-Persian treaty of February 26, 1921, which returned the Khostaria concession to Persia, specifically states that the concession could not be granted to a citizen of a third country without the Soviet government's consent. This treaty is still valid.

Second, "For all commercial purposes," as I wrote in Oil Imperialism "the only outlet from the North Persian fields to the world is via Baku, across the Soviet Caucasus to Batum and thence through the Dardanelles. Even could a pipe line be laid (over seven hundred miles of steep mountains and trackless deserts) to the Persian Gulf, the sea voyage from Bushire or any other Persian port to Europe would be many times longer than the one from the Black Sea . . .Alone the 'lay of the land' gives Russia the power to veto any concession to the North Persian resources . . . ."

Moscow has exercised this veto and will exercise it to keep foreign oil firms out of North Iran. So the thesis that Stalin had to get a concession out of the Iranian Government recently in order to forestall the Americans and the British is untrue.

Post '41 Volte Face

The second undeniable fact is that the Soviet government never asked for an oil concession in North Iran before 1941. If Russia had asked for such a concession she could have received it, for Iran alone is too weak to resist Soviet pressure even if no Red troops are stationed on Iranian soil.

Moscow never asked for a concession because it has no need of foreign oil. The Soviet Union has boasted in print that it has the largest oil reserve in the world. At Baku and Grozni, the Bolsheviks operate very large and very efficient oil fields. I have inspected them many times. Smaller fields are worked in other parts. Several gigantc new fields were discovered during the second world war and now await exploitation.

So, Russia has no fear of North Iranian Oil going to its rivals, and she herself has no need of that oil. Then why all the fuss?

Thin Wedge

A look at the map of the concession which Moscow has just received from the Teheran authorities will answer the question. The concession extends over all of Northern Iran to within forty-six miles of Teheran. Thousands of Soviet engineers, officials, secretpolice agents, and workingmen can now enter the region and move freely in it; they will not neglect to strengthen Soviet political influence.

Until 1939, when the Soviet Union was not an expanding power, the Kremlin manifested no interest in an old concession for itself in Iran. Since 1939, Russia has annexed an empire, and is now claiming Turkish territory and Mediterranean positions of power. The new oil concession is the thin wedge of Soviet expansion into Iran. The Red Flag will follow the oil driller.

The Oil issue in north Iran is a red herring. It is a false issue which hides the real truth that in Iran Moscow is pursuing the age-long Czarist purpose of crushing the British Empire and thereby building up its own.

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SPORTS JOTTINGS FROM HERE AND THERE

By J. C. MAITRA

THE SICKNESS OF INDIAN CRICKET . "SCRAP THE BOARD OF CONTROL." AN IMPOSSIBLE PROPOSITION. COMMON MALAISE. C.C.I.'s ACHIEVEMENTS'. BOMBAY CRICKET STILL DISORGANISED. NATIONAL OUTLOOK NEEDED. FATE OF ZONAL QUADRANGULAR. ALL-ROUND CO-OPERATION.

"All is not well with Indian cricket. Its foundations are weak, the superstructure has been Jerry built and is already showing wide cracks caused by defective material. The present edifice should be scrapped and if rebuilt be done by experienced architects and conscientious workmen, says Hartley in a recent issue of the "Times of India."

"This is plain to everybody," he continues. "except perhaps those members of the Board of Control with axes to grind or who are office-seekers.

"The suggestion that the Board should take over and run the Zonal Tournament, which was a C.C.I. institution, is most unwelcome in Western India and the other, to outlaw the Pentangular tournament, has been bitterly criticised. To that it is certain Bombay will never agree."

SCRAP THE BOARD OF CONTROL?

"The remedy? Scrap the Board of Control and place the fate of Indian cricket in the hands of the obvious body to control it, the Cricket Club of India, make the C.C.I. the M.C.C. of India, "suggests the same scribe. "Bombay is plainly dissatisfied with the present state of affairs and in particular with the Board of Control. Being the home of Indian Cricket, the Bombay Presidency is strong enough to break away from the Board and stand alone. It is very likely the Western India Associations would fall into line with Bombay and so form a powerful combination of cricketing associations capable of providing all the big cricket Western India could accommodate.

AN IMPOSSIBLE PROPOSITION

The remarks read so amusing that I could not help sharing them with my readers. How on earth is it possible for Bombay—or Western India for the matter of that—break away from the rest of the country and isolate themselves within their own borders? It must not be forgotten that if Bombay is not affiliated to the Board of Control, nobody outside its domain would touch it with a barge pole. No foreign country will have any trick with it either even if it is the home of Indian cricket.

The C. C. I. or its own volition and authority cannot take charge of the cricket administration of the whole country. It can only be done with the willing consent of all the provincial associations—at least a majority of them. The C.C.I. itself may come under a ban if it tries to arrogate to itself the powers of the National body.

COMMON MALAISE

The fact must be recognised that the Board of Control is the supreme cricketing authority in India. Because it is not up to our liking, it cannot be said to be less representative of the country. It is rather unfortunate that some self-seekers have managed to get into the Board of Control. But isn't that the position with most of our provincial organisations also? It is a common sight to see people adorning Managing Committees of controlling bodies with no knowledge of the games concerned. Bombay is equally guilty with other provinces. So before Bombay asks other people clean up their stables, it must put in order its own house first. Living in glass houses yourself, can you afford to throw stones at others?

C.C.I.'S ACHIEVEMENTS

What has C.C.I. done for Indian Cricket so far to claim the absolute controlling power of the game in its hands? Practically nothing. All that it has done, has done in its own interest—that is, to get out of the financial morass in which its first Secretary, Tomy de Mello, had thrown it. Instead of promoting cricket which is supposed to be its main object, it is promoting drinking, dancing and gambling. It would be interesting to know how many cricket competitions the Club has sponsored upto now on its own initiative and responsibility. And how many promising youngsters it has helped to come up to the forefront. With a famous cricketer like Duleep Sinhji at its helm of affairs, we may now see some improvement. For that we shall wait and watch.

BOMBAY CRICKET STILL DISORGANISED

Similarly the Bombay Cricket Association has laid itself bare to the charge of inactivity. During all these years of its existence, it has not been able to organise Bombay's cricket on a systematic basis. We are still in the pre-historic period when matches were played in a "friendly" way—that is, play for any or as many clubs as you like in the same season. There is no registration of players and no league tournaments. Consequently, it is the player—and not the club—who decides for whom he would play the next match. His club has no right to claim his services on a given day, if at all. On the other hand, he may be playing against it for some other club! This is a most sorry state of affairs. Under such circumstances, how is it possible for our players and clubs to make rapid progress?

NATIONAL OUTLOOK NEEDED

I should, therefore, like to ask those who are supposed to be in charge of our cricket affairs, what right they have got to claim control of the game for whole of India. If it cannot manage its own affairs properly, how can it be depended upon to administer it for the entire nation? It should be remembered also that this is the day of democracy. So no person of club can be given dictatorial powers over the rest. Besides, C.C.I. has yet to prove that it stands chiefly for the promotion and development of cricket in India as a whole—and that too on national lines.

The very fact that it is still clinging hand to the communal Pentangular shows that it is living in the narrow groove of communalism. It seems unaware or unconscious of the vast and rapid changes that are coming over the world. Unless and until it gets out of the old rut, and takes up a national outlook, it cannot claim the allegiance and support of the whole country.

FATE OF ZONAL QUADRANGULAR

I shall be very sorry if the Board of Control takes over the administration of the Zonal Quadrangular from the hands of the C.C.I. The scheme was formulated in Bombay and was inaugurated here after a good deal of persuation and pressure. When it was crying for adoption, nobody would touch it. I had suggested it to Bengal, but they would not take the responsibility of sponsoring it. Nor would Madras shoulder it. It is true that it did not make a successful debut last season. But that is no reason why it should not have a fairer support later on. In fact I have full confidence that it will be thoroughly successful in a year or two if the C.C.I. stages it at the height of the cricket season. And there will be no question of its popularity once it replaces the communal show.

ALL-ROUND CO-OPERATION

The question may still be asked if the C.C.I. can be the M.C.C. of India. It can be only if all or most of the affiliated associations of the Board of Control agree. Otherwise it can't be done. It must be remembered that Britain is a small country—just like one of our big provinces. So what can be done there easily, cannot be accomplished so easily here. The vastness of our country makes our problems more difficult of solution. Then what could be achieved readily years ago, cannot be attained so promptly now.

On the other hand, what was difficult in the old days is easy of solution today, because people are now wide-awake as to their duties and responsibilities as well as their rights and privileges. So what is needed today is co-operation all round. If personal and sectional interests are subordinated to the best interests of the nation, India cannot lag behind world leaders for long. All our efforts must be directed to that end.

OUR TABULATED ADLETS

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A Barrister, aged 43, Kushatria by caste, with descent income and modern home desires remarriage with a Hindu girl aged about 30 (unmarried or a widow). The girl must be educated, homely, slim, fair, and pretty. No caste restriction and she must be national minded. Apply Box No. 1604.

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Applications in writing, with copies of certificates and testimonials, are invited from suitably qualified women candidates for the post of Physical Instructress. Salary Rs. 150-10-250 per mensem with dearness allowance of Rs. 30|- per mensem. Applications should reach the Directress, Lady Irwin College, Sikandra Road, New Delhi, on or before July 1st. 1946. (7897)

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Wanted energetic and efficient agents. Lucrative Terms. Apply to Messrs. Punjab Button Mfg. Co., Dacca (1621)

Wanted Agents for our products in Bombay, Central Provinces and Rajputana States apply S. K. Kiran (India) Amritsar (1536)

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Wanted wholesale and retail agents in Calcutta, Bombay, New Delhi, Simla and Shillong at liberal commission basis for sale of high class Kashmir Arts and Crafts. Well-known reliable firms will get preference. For particulars apply to the Universal Agency, Export Department, Srinagar, Kashmir. (1695)

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CITY MARKETS

BOMBAY COTTON

Bombay, May 4.

Local cotton market opened steady and ruled quiet. July delivery opened at Rs. 475 and advanced upto Rs. 476/8, then reacted again to Rs. 475 and later steadied around Rs. 475/8. May was quoted a little lower than July. September delivery stood at 479/8.

The following were the closing quotations:—

	Rs.	as.
May Delivery	473	0
July	475	0
September	477	8

GOLD AND SILVER

Bombay, May 4.

Very little activity in the local gold and silver markets to-day. Short covering seemed to be the order of the day, though the general undertone was firm.

Gold for Vaishakh delivery opened at Rs. 96/2, advanced as far as Rs. 97/2 and later steadied at that figure. Ready gold was quoted Rs. three higher than the forward.

Silver for Vaishakh delivery opened around Rs. 166/8 and after progressing upto Rs. 168 hovered around Rs. 167/14. Ready silver was Rs. 2 higher.

The following were the closing quotations.—

	Rs.	as.
Ready Gold	100	0
Vaishakh Delivery	97	6
Ready Silver	169	12
Vaishakh Delivery	68	8
Sovereign	68	0

INDIAN STOCK EXCHANGE
BOMBAY, May 4.

Tata Ordinary 522 Tata Deferreds 2960 Indian Iron 54/4 Steel Corpn. of Bengal 50/4 Bombay Dyeing 2410 Central India 485 Century 1045 Gokak 380 Kohinoor 925 Simplex 414 Andhra Valley 1880 Tata Hydro 221/4 Tata Power 1980 Associated Cement 252/8 Belapur 293/12 Bombay Burma (Old) 655

MONEY MARKET

BOMBAY May 4.

B. C. Rates T T D D 1/5 15/16.
London Banks Selling T T D D 1/5 31/32
London Banks Buying T. T. 1/6 1/32
London Banks Buying D. D. 1/6 1/16.
London Banks Buying 90 d/st. 1/6 5/32 to 4th month
London Banks Buying 90 d/st. 1/6 3/16 5th and 6th months.
New York B O. Rate T. T. Rs 332 1/2
New York Banks Selling T. T. D D Rs. 332 1/2
New York Banks Buying T. T. Rs 329 3/4
New York Banks Buying D. D. Rs 328 3/4 under L/C
New York Banks Buying D. D. Rs 328 1/2 not under L/C
Montreal Banks Selling T. T. D D Rs. 302 1/2
Montreal Banks Buying T. T. Rs. 299
Montreal Banks Buying D D Rs 297 3/4 one month.
Paris Banks Selling T T Fcs. 3550.
Paris Banks Buying T T Fcs. 3650
Amsterdam Banks Selling T T D D Fl. 79 1/2
Java Bank Selling T. T. D D. ——
Hongkong Banks Selling T T D D Rs. 83 1/2
Singapore Banks Selling T T D D Rs 157

CROSS RATE

New York/London dol 4.03 3/8 4.03-1/2
London/Hongkong 1/2 13/16 1/3 3/32
London/Singapore 2/3 15/16-2/4 5/32
London/Paris Fcs. 479.70 480.30
London/Belgium Fcs 176 1/2-3/4
London/Switzerland Fcs. 17.30-40
London/Stockholm Kr 16.85.95
London/Denmark Kr 19.32-19.36
London/New York dol 4.02-1/2 4.03-1/2
London/Montreal dol 4.43-4.45
London/Amsterdam Fl 10.68 10.70
London/Java Fl 7.58-7.62
Tone of Sterling Exchange:—Quiet
Gold London £8.12-3
Gold New York dol 35
Silver London 44d
Silver New York 70 3/4.
London Discts 3 months 17/32 p c
London Discts 6 months 9/16 5/8 p c.
Reserve Bank Rate 3 per cent. Bank of England Rate 2 per cent.
Money:—Call 1/4 per cent 3 Months 1/2 per cent 6 Months 3/4 per cent 12 Months 1 1/4 per cent
Tone:—Some demand.

WALL STREET

NEW YORK, May 3.

Wall Street opened irregular and moderately active. The market suffered a further small setback on balance during the morning in aimless trading with the usual selected favourities managing to counter the general trend on the impetus of pleasing individual situations. Declines of fractions to one point were well in the majority let by Steels Motors Rails and utilities with numerous operators standing aside awaiting further developments. Another fortnight of no soft coal deliveries to key centres is expected to cause widespread industrial stoppages while the railway and utility services have already been forced to tighten their schedules. However, certain financial quarters predict Government intervention or pressure is likely soon to force a compromise of the coal-strike in order to avert serious damage to the national economy which is now actively developing. The spreading effects of the national coal crisis and the threatnned railway walkout on May 18th were the principal factors behind the generally heavy tendencies of the main body of stock during the afternoon with the volume again around the one million mark. Dreline of fractions to more than two points were registered on a fairly broad front with eastman kodak exceptionally declining five points. The earlier strong spots encountered profit taking as speculators appetite for sppncial issues waned. Poor first quarter earnings of motors and chrysler due to the lengthy strike confirmed expectations and these issues acted no worse than others affected by the currently dark economic picture. The market closed heavy.

American Telephone and Telegraph 193-3/8 (194-1/8), Amerex Corpn. 43-1/4 (44.3/4), Anaconda Copper Mining 46-1/8 (46-3/4), Chase National Bank 43 1/2 (44), Sinclair Oil 19 1/2 (19-5/8), Firestone Tyre and Rubber 76-1/2 (77-1/2), General Electric 45-1/2 (45-1/2), General Motors 72-5/8 (73), Ingersol Rand 143 ex-dividend (141), International Nickel 37 (37-5/8), National City Bank of New York 46-1/2 (47-1/8), New York Central Rail Road 26-1/4 (26-5/8), Socony Vacuum 16-5/8 (16 3/4), Texas Corporation 61-3/4 (63-1/4), Texas Corporation 61-3/4 (63-1/4), Union Carbon and Carbide 117-1/4 (118-1/4), U. S. Smelting Refining 70-1/2 (77), U. S. Steel Corporation (Common) 82-3/4 (82-7/8), Western Union Telegraph 36-1/4 (36).

Cotton opened irregular and then generally sagged owing to lack of followup of yesterday's good rally. Liquidation of May contracts on the circulation of notices for one thousand bales served mildly to depress other months with a resumption of selling based on the increasingly serious nationwide effects of the coal strike together with the threatennd rail strike. Operators continue to place stress on favourable crop news and widespread opposition to hindrance of O P A price control powers. The market later rallied sufficiently to erase interim losses with trade support and mill price fixing tending to check selling inclinations.

The market at noon was steady. Minor changes under mostly slow dealings featured the afternoon market with prices easily influenced by small orders either way. Finally prices lifted slightly on moderate trade support which continued the chief stabilising factor. There was still little encouraging news to stir the market. The session closed steady. Sales are estimated at 80,000 bales.

CHICAGO GRAINS: May rye established a new all time high record on heavy short covering stimulaced by the strength of Winnipeg, the tight statistical position and continued absence of notices. Oats were hesitant early on reports of additional moisture in the grain belt but subsequently rallied smartly with rye. Two bills introduced in the house of representatives to increase wheat and Maize ceilings 30 cents a bushel were an additional factor.

July	18-1/2 bid
September	1.83-1/2 bid
December	1.83-1/2 bid

NEW YORK COTTON
NEW YORK May 3.

May	27.58
July	27.58
October	27.67
December	27.69
January	27.66
	Nominal
March	27.73
May	27.68
Middling Spot	28.16

NEW ORLEANS COTTON

May	27.35
July	27.50
October	27.61
December	27.66
March	27.72
Middling Spot	27.30

NEW YORY COTTON
NOON CALL

May	unquoted
July	27.55
October	2761

LONDON BULLION
LONDON May 4.

Spot 44 pence Forward 44 pence Gold bars fine per oz £8/12/3

NEW YORK SILVER
NEW YORK May 3.

United States price of foreign silver	71.1 cents
New York buying price	70-3/4 cents

LONDON WHEAT
LONDON May 4.

Wheat Futures Santa Fe (new crop)	unoffered
Australian Wheat (bulk	64/6 quoted
Australian Wheat (bags)	unoffered

SIMLA, DEVICE FOR R.T.C. TALKS

MISSION'S NEW SCHEME MERELY 'TALKING POINT'

Fateful Conference Begins To-day: League Disappointed At Congress Attitude

(From Our Correspondent)
SIMLA, May 4.

With the arrival of Mr. Jinnah the tempo of political activity here has considerably increased to-day. The Cabinet Mission had three meetings with Lord Wavell and is still closeted with him at the time of wiring.

The Congress delegation had a prolonged meeting with Gandhiji. The League delegation, which arrived here to-day, looked disappointed when appraised of Congress attitude to the Mission's scheme.

Further elucidation is now available in regard to the Mission's scheme. Political observers describe it as mere "talking point" which commits nobody. It is a more device to bring the Congress and the League together round a table in the small room in the Viceregal Lodge.

Furthermore the scheme is in a more skeleton form and will require a good deal of filling in with details. The scheme is in no sense is a take-it-or-leave-it scheme, and is subject to alterations and amendments commonly agreed upon by both parties. Further, it can be substituted by any other scheme found acceptable to the Conference. The Conference, it is claimed, is a test whether the parties are willing to talk to each other and Indian statesmanship is capable of making adjustments for the common good of the country.

Mission circles feel that the parties having failed to take the initiative to meet together the Mission has put up one of many formulas for a common discussion. They claim that having given an opportunity to meet together some 'via media' could be found to bridge the communal gulf.

The League Delegation has brought Professor A. B Halim with it for consultation. He will act as secretary to the League Delegation

Sir Stafford Cripps is not keeping good health since his arrival here.

Major Short, a member of Sir Stafford Cripps's staff, called on Mahatma Gandhi this evening and was with him for over an hour.

FINAL TOUCHES

The 'API' adds: The members of the Cabinet Mission held another meeting with the Viceroy this morning when final touches to the agenda for the opening of the Tripartite Conference were given and formal invitations to the Congress and Muslim League delegations sent out. While there has been no official indication of the procedure to be adopted at the Conference, it is widely believed that the Conference will open with an inaugural speech by Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State. Possibilities are that for the first two or three days there may be both morning and afternoon sessions whereafter the Conference may decide to keep the afternoon free to enable the two delegations to consult their respective Working Committees.

The Cabinet Mission is at present engaged in drawing up the programme for the first two or three days.

Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan called on Mr. Jinnah this evening and had a prolonged conference with him.

Nawab Mohammed Ismail Khan and Mr. Abdur Rab Nishtar, two other representatives of the Muslim League are staying with Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan.

A continuous stream of followers of Mr. Jinnah came to his residence this afternoon. Mr. Jinnah, who looked rather tired after the journey, told pressmen that excellent arrangements had been made for the journey.

A conference of the members of the Congress delegation was held at Mahatma Gandhi's residence this afternoon. The Congress President, Maulana Azad, and Pandit Jawaharlal drove to 'Chadwick' early in the afternoon after lunch and were with Mahatma Gandhi in conference and with other members of the Congress delegation for nearly one hour.

The main spokesman on behalf of the Congress wil be tne President, Maulana Azad.

Cripps Takes Soundings

Preliminary Discussion On Procedure Of Simla Conference

(From Our Correspondent.)
SIMLA, May 4.

The historic session of the Tripartite Constitutional Conference will open here to-morrow at 10 a.m. The Cabinet Mission has been holding daily consultations ever since it arrived here earlier this week while their ever agile spokesman, Sir Stafford Cripps has been taking soundings in the Congress camp. The main topic of discussion, I am given to understand, has been the procedure which the conference should adopt.

One view is that the Secretary of State or Lord Wavell will open the proceedings by outlining the course which the negotiations have taken ever since the Mission arrived here six weeks ago. It is likely to be explained that the scheme which the Mission had put up for discussion incorporates the points of common agreement of the two main parties namely the Congress and the Muslim League. The scheme maintains the unity of India and yet meets the Muslim demand for sovereign Muslim States. The present boundaries of the provinces are proposed to be retained to meet the Congress viewpoint which is opposed to the partition of India on religious or communal basis. A reference is likely to be made to the financial aspect of the scheme referred in some detail by me yesterday.

Circles in close touch with the Mission hold that the scheme represents the largest measure of agreement. As indicated yesterday Congress circles do not hold similar views and one viewpoint is that the conference may not survive up to lunch time unless the Mission is holding some other proposal up its sleeve and will place it before the delegates to save the situation.

The League circles are equally determined. The League President Mr. Jinnah arrived here to-day and was given a reception by local Leaguers.

Three-Cornered Fight In Simla Conference

CABINET MISSION OUT FOR SETTLEMENT AT ANY PRICE, AND AT ANYBODY'S COST

(From Our Correspondent)
SIMLA, May 4.

Chances of success of the Tripartite Constitutional Conference which opens here are dubious and bleak, according to persons in the know here. The main reasons for holding this view is that the Congress is fundamentally opposed to the Cabinet Mission's scheme of the Confederal Centre and regards it objectionable in principle and unworkable in practice. According to the Congress circles, the Mission and particularly Sir Stafford Cripps is determined to reach a settlement at any price and at anybody's cost. They hold that the latest scheme of the Mission is indicative that this settlement will be the cost of the Congress One result has been that enthusiasm for the M ission has considerably cooled down and even Gandhiji at prayer did not hold out much hope, although he himself had not given up hopes entirely.

MISSION'S COMPROMISE SCHEME

Let me analyse the situation that emerges from latest developments.

The Congress and the League having failed to reach settlement, the Cabinet Mission before leaving for Simla canvassed support for the Indian Union of two Federations, one composed of predominently Muslim Provinces. Union under the proposal would have one Centre, having control over defence, foreign affairs and communications. Enquiries show that the Mission's mind is working in favour of the present bounderies of existing provinces.

In other words, there would be no boundary commission to demarcate the Muslim majority areas as envisaged under C. R. formula. The Mission's proposal would therefore concede the League's demand for retention of present boundaries of Punjab and Bengal. What would be the position of Assam is not yet known. How far the Mission has committed itself on this basis is not yet known. One thing, however, is known namely that the Mission has failed to get both the Congress and the League committed to this scheme. It is an open secret that the Mission in its letters to Jinnah and Azad had asked to come to the Conference, if they accepted the scheme as basis for discussion. Both the Congress, and the League refused to walk into the Mission's parlour blindfold, and the Mission has to climb down and declare that the Conference would be unfettered in its discussions.

CONGRESS OBJECTIONS.

Let me explain some of the objections of the Congress to the Mission's scheme. Firstly, the Congress holds that the scheme is based on partition of India on communal or religious basis to which it is basically opposed. Secondly, the scheme does not accord the right of self determination either to provinces or to the Non-Muslim majority areas of Punjab, Bengal and Assam. Thirdly, the scheme makes no provision for financing the Union Centre.

In fact finance is the biggest bedrock of the whole scheme. Let me elucidate this point. The Union Centre would be in charge of two biggest and third minor spending department of the present Government of India, namely defence, foreign affairs, civil aviation, roads and broadcasting. On the credit side, the Union Centre will have railways—sickman of India's fiscal system and posts and telegraphs.

Even on basis of war time bloated figures; it is futile to expect that railways, posts, and telegraphs will be able to finance Union Centres annual budget. One possibility therefore is that unions budget may be financed by contributions made by two Federal Units namely Muslim Federation and non-Muslim Federation, presumably on the basis of fifty fifty. Contribution basis will be risky because either of the two Federations at any time might refuse to make its annual contributions, thereby breaking up the Union's Centre and India's Unity.

PARITY WITH VENGEANCE

Other alternative is to allocate certain elastic heads of taxation to the Union to finance its budget. This in its turn must bring into being the Union's Legislature and must arm the Union with authority and power which might be distasteful to the League and impair the soveregnity of the Muslim Federation. Then again the non-Muslim Federation might refuse to raise taxation for the Union in excess of fifty-fifty basis. The Congress circles assert that the claim for parity of representation must carry with it obligations to make sacrifice in money on parity basis, and if three-fourth of India has to receive parity of representation with one-fourth of Muslim majority provinces, latter should also be prepared to raise revenues on parity basis for financing the Union's Centre. Another issue be under discussion is whether this parity would be extended to all spheres of administration, such as defence personnel. In their present mood the Congress circles stand by Azad's formula which they hold as last word as far as they are concerned.

In the absence of an agreement on this basis, suggestions are made for an Interntaional Arbitration on this issue.

On the other hand the position of the League reminds as defined by its convention held at Delhi last month. The League has informed the Mission that it regarded partition of India as 'sine qua non' of any constitutional progress in this country. The Mission has succeeded in both parties agreeing to come to the Joint Conference, but like horses both parties may not drink. In short, all the three parties, the Congress, the League and the Cabinet Mission have three schemes, which lack basis of common agreement. One indication of how Gandhiji's mind is working is that he is sending back his party which he brought with him only day before yesterday. He would, however, stay behind ready to leave Simla at a moment's notice. Obviously, he would not like his outrage to hamper his movement. Incidently Cripps saw Gandhiji this morning.

Azad believed written letter to Wavell urging speedy settlement of arbitrator.

Bhulabhai Slowly Sinking

Mr. Bhulabhai Desai is reported to be lying in an unconscious state and his pulse is reported to be feeble and irregular. At 2-30 a.m. (Sunday) he was reported to be slowly and continuously sinking. Dr. Cooper examined him last at 10-30 p.m.

MEETING TO-DAY

A public meeting of the citizens of Bombay will be held at 6 p. m. on Chawpatty today (Sunday) to pray for the long life and health to Sjt. BHULABHAI DESAI. Sjt. SOLI BATLIWALA will preside and Major-General SHAH NAWAJ of Azad Hind Fauz will address.

RUSSIANS QUIT IRAN

Azerbaijan Almost Completely Evacuated

..TEHERAN, May 4. (A.P.A.): The Red Army has evacuated the whole of Iran, an Iranian General Staff officer said to-day.

Government spokesman prince Mozaffar Firouz also announced that Azerbaijan has been almost completely evacuated" and that he saw no reason why correspondents should not visit that province after Monday.

TEHERAN-TABRIZ ACCORD

Reuter adds: An agreement between M. Ghavam-es-Sultaneh's Persian Government and the mission from Azerbaijan, the North Persian "home rule" province, may be reached this evening, it was reliably reported here to-day.

Azerbaijan representatives, headed by M. Jafar Pishevari, the democratic "Government" Premier, have been discussing the proposals for a greater measure of autonomy for the province.

Ex-Member Of Shah's Council Arrested

TEHERAN, May 4 (A.P.A.): Mirza Khan Rashti, a former member of the Shah's Council, was arrested today immediately after he had a conference with Joffra Pishavari, head of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The arrest, made on the orders of Premier Qavam-es-Sultaneh, was the fourth such since Qavam's return from Moscow.

Friends of Rashti said that he saw Pishavari at the request of the Shah.

The Iranian foreign office said that Rashti had been charged with subversive activities.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

NEW YORK COTTON

New York, May 4.

Previous closing	27.58
To-day's opening	27.60
Difference	+02
To-day's closing	27.49
Difference	—09

ARAB APPEAL FOR SOVIET INTERVENTION

Report Aims At Zionist Capitalism In Palestine, Says Haifa Society

JERUSALEM, May 4 (Reuter): An Arab appeal for Soviet intervention in Palestine is reported today here from Haifa, the main port and important British naval base. The Haifa Muslim Society has cabled a message to the Soviet Ambassador in Cairo with a request that it be forwraded to Moscow asking Soviet aid for the Arabs. The Anglo-American Commission's report, says the message, "aims at establishing Zionist Capitalism in Palestine."

In the Arab town of Jaffa all Arab members of the Anglo-Arab club have resigned. They included leading businessmen of the town.

ALLIES WARNED

In Bagdad today members of the Iraq Parliament, political leaders and prominent citizens joined in passing a resolution warning the British and United States Governments not to adopt the Palestine Commission's report. They described it as 'unjust and inhuman to the Arab world."

M. Arshad Umari, former Foreign Minister of Iraq, declared: "It is our duty to defend Palestine to the last drop of our blood."

Informed quarters in Jerusalem state that when the High Commissioner, General Sir Alan Cunningham, saw M. Jamal Hussini, Chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee, yesterday, he asked him to withdraw a letter which the committee proposed to send to the British Prime Minister, Mr. Attlee.

This letter announced the Arabs rejection of the Palestine Commission's recommendations and their determination "to defend their country by all means at their disposal."

LULL IN PALESTINE

There was a lull on both the Arab and the Jewish "fronts" in Palestine today after yesterday's Arab protest strike. Although the official Jewry is still silent on the recommendations, yesterday's announcement by the secret radio "Voice of Israel", that Jewish resistance forces will refrain from violence provided 100,000 Jews are admitted to Palestine, is believed to be an accurate reflection of Jewish opinion.

Pending an official declaration by the British and the United States Governments on the Palestine report it is generally believed in Jerusalem that the Jewish resistance movement will suspend "operation."

NEW YORK: The institute of Arab American Affairs in a statement on the Palestine report said: "Should the report be implemented as it stands it will commit United States foreign policy to military intervention in the Near and Middle East which is to the interest of neither the United States nor world peace."

BETRAYAL OF INDIAN MUSLIM

NEW DELHI: Nawabzada Liaqat Ali Khan, Honorary Secretary, All-India Muslim League, has issued the following satement:—

"The report of the Anglo-American Committee on Palestine has caused great resentment amongst Muslims throughout the lengh and breadth of India. Quaid-e-Azam Jinnah has issued a statement to the Press characterising the report of the committee as 'the grossest betrayal of the promises made to the Arabs'. It is not only the grossest betrayal of the promises made to the Arabs but also the Mussalmans of India

"It has been decided by the All-India Muslim League that Muslims all over India should observe Friday May 10 as "Palestine Day", hold meetings and pass resolutions condemning the report and urging upon the British and American Governments not to implement its recom dations as it will create a very srious situation.

"All provincial Muslim Leagues are requested to take steps for the observance of "Palestine Day" on May 10 in their respective provinces.

HATOYAMA BARRED FROM HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE

TOKYO, May 4 (Reuter): General MacArthur's Headquarters has barred Ichiro Hatoyama, Chairman of the Japanese Liberal Party from holding public office. Hatoyama, whose party secured 141 of 464 seats in the Diet in recent elections had been recommended for Primiership by Baron Kijuro Shidehara, the present Japanese Prime Minister.

Paris Deadlock Continues

Russia Supports Claim Of Yugoslavia

PARIS, May 4 (Reuter): The deadlock over the Italo-Yugoslav frontier came no nearer solution at this morning's session of the Big Four Foreign Ministers, when Britain, the United States and Russia all stood firm on their respective previous position.

After stating that Soviet Russia considered Yugoslavia's claim to be well-founded and just, the Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Molotov, made fairly strong criticism of the British, American and French suggested frontier lines on the grounds that they would "punish" Yugoslavs, who after all had been Allies.

M. Bidault, French Foreign Minister, emphasised that experts, who had studied the frontier in question had acted on the instructions they received after the London Conference last September to study the frontier from an ethnical basis.

Mr. Byrnes, United States Secretary of State, told M. Molotov that so far as the United States line was concerned, it was very far from truth that there was any desire to punish Yugoslavia. Yugoslavia had already received 18,900 square miles of territory inhabited by 375,000 people.

Mr. Bevin, British Foreign Minister, made the point that the instructions to the experts were perfectly clear, and he regretted any suggestion that perfecly impartial officials had any ulterior motives in producing their report. The British delegation, said Mr. Bevin, had not yet made up its mind which of the three lines—the British, French or United States was better, but he thought that the French line probably ran closer to the ethnic line.

The conference adjourned until 4 p.m., G. M. T.

U.S. Wheat Shipment To India "Infinitesimal"

WASHINGTON, May 4. (Reuter): Only American wheat can save India's rationing system—this is authoritatively stated to be the view of Indian officials at present battling here against any reduction of India's requested half a million ton wheat allocation for May, reports "Reuter".

From the same sources it is confirmed that very little grain has been shipped from United States ports to India ever since the Indian Food Mission was here two months ago, and under the present plans shipments between now and the end of the Summer crisis will be "infinitesimal".

Recent harsh accusation against the Combined Food Board and the United States Government by Sir Jwala Prasad Srivastava and Sir Manilal Nanavati are apparently based on the allegation—strongly denied by Combined Food Board officials—that the Indian Food Mission was actually promised 400,000 tons of grain by the board.

This allegation is also supported by Indian officials here, who claim that the Board also promised 146,000 tons of rice in the second quarter (half a million tons was asked for)—and this amount they have not been allocated despite the fact that the shortage of rice is probably more severe than of wheat.

Indian officials appear to be sharing with the U.N.R.R.A considerable impatience with the Food Board. It is based mainly on the claim made by both the U.N.R.R.A. and Indian officials that the present starvation picture was foreseen in the third quarter last year, but acted upon neither by the main supplying countries nor by the Combined Food Board, which is their allocating agency.

Since the Food Mission was here the bulk of India's shipments have come from Australia, with diversions from Britain and possible shipments from Canada making up the difference.

Indian officials are not optimistic that such shipments will be made—but they intend to fight their hardest possible for it in a battle which will reach a crisis here around the middle of the next week.

Mission's Tasks Most Difficult, Says Mahatma

SIMLA, May 4. (A.P.I.): Speaking at the prayer meeting to-night Mahatma Gandhi referred to the present political negotiations and said that he was playing the role of an adviser.

He said: "I have come to advise the Congress and I know the Congress always appreciates my advice. I would also like to advise the Muslim League, if the Muslim League would care to take my advice. I have also to advise the Cabinet Mission. I know my task is a very difficult one. The task of the Congress is difficult. So is that of the Muslim League but the task of the Cabinet Mission is most difficult. There are some who say that the Cabinet Mission may cheat us but I think this is very wrong. I am convinced that the Cabinet Mission are sincere in their desire to part with power".

Explaining the reason why he thought the task of the Cabinet Mission was most difficult, Mahatma Gandhi said: "The British have to give up their Raj in India and withdraw. They have pledged to do so. All the same we have all to realise that still a handful of Englishmen are ruling over us. It is a matter of shame not only for us but also for the British. It is because of this sense of shame that they have decided to quit. Therefore, I say their task is more difficult".

GANDHI ENTOURAGE FOR DELHI

SIMLA May 4. (A.P.I.): The entire entourage of Mahatma Gandhi, excepting Rajkumari Amrit Kaur who is a resident of Simla, is returning to Delhi according to the decision of Mahatma Gandhi. Even before the party came to Simla, it is gathered that Mahatma Gandhi was not certain whether members of his party must come to Simla, and as he had no time to decide the question at Delhi, the party accompanied him to Simla. But yesterday after consultations, Mahatma Gandhi decided to send them back. Dr. Dinshaw Mehta who is not a regular member of his entourage and who has accompanied Mahatma Gandhi to Simla will, however, continue his stay in Simla with him.

GANDHIJI EXPLAINS REASONS

Mahatma Gandhi has issued the following statement:—"Pressmen arn inquiring already why my large party is going back. This is a personal question I would rather avoid answering it but in these days of publicity and speculation the question cannot be evaded. The reason is purely moral if it may not be described as spiritual.

"My task as self-appointed adviser to all the parties concerned is the most delicate at the present moment. The Simla venue was declared all of a sudden. It dawned on me that if I was to go to Simla I must go without the usual party even though "Harijan" work might suffer. Had I succeeded in carrying conviction to the members of my party, they would have remained behind in Delhi.

"The time within which the decision was to be taken was only a few hours on the 1st instant They were anxious for my well being. The whole moral purpose would be defeated if I did not carry their mind with me. They, therefore, came to Simla but the matter was still agitating me. So I conferred with Pyarelal yesterday. He felt convinced that I should be left free to put myself solely in God's keeping if I was to work under as much detachment as was possible for me. The best part of the afternoon was devoted to prayerful discussion that the party should go back to the seat of Delhi and wait for me there to rejoin me when I descended. This is the sole reason without reservation."

MAHATMA PLEADS FOR HARIJANS

Says, Let Everyone Take One To Live With Him

SIMLA, May 3 (A.P.I.): In his prayer meeting speech this evening Mahatma Gandhi urged the people of Simla to eradicate corruption and the desire to do evil things.

Mahatma Gandhi referred specially to the Harijans in Simla and said they were probably wondering why he was living at "Chadwick." He had come to Simla at the instance of the Cabinet Mission who had arranged for his accommodation. He would, however, assure them that he or any member of his party was using no more room n ths big building than they did elsewhere. That was why he had asked Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and others to stay with him.

Mahatma Gandhi pleaded for the amelioration of living conditions of Harijans and said if everyone decided to take one Harijan to live with him the problem could be solved.

WILL ASSAM BE TAGGED ON TO EASTERN BENGAL?

Widespread Apprehension In Congress Circles

SHILLONG, May 3 (API): Apprehension that the Eastern Bengal districts with predominantly Muslim population in the groupings of Hindu and Muslim zones, may be tagged to Assam to be a part of the Indian union is expressed by Mr. Mohendra Mohon Chowdhury, Secretary of the Assam Congress Parliamentary Party, in a telegram to the Congress President Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

The telegram further says: "If the apprehension comes true then we can clearly see its consequence, that is to say Assam with her ancient culture, civilization and itterature is bound to be extinct and, as such the Assamese people must be given the liberty to resist such scheme with whatever might they can."

The party has requested the Congress President to summon some one from Assam, specially the Premier, Mr. Gopinath Bardoloi to place Assam's case before the Working Committee.

BENGAL ASSEMBLY TO MEET ON MAY 14

CALCUTTA, May 3 (API): The first meeting of the newly elected Bengal Legislative Assembly will be held on May 14 next.

Four New C. P. Ministers Sworn In

NAGPUR, May 4. (U.P.I.): Four more Ministers were sworn in at Government House ot 11 a.m. today, thus bringing the total strength of the Central Provinces and Berar Ministry to nine, including one Harijan and one Muslim.

The new Ministers are, Mr. W. E. Barlings, Dr. Hasan (Muslim), Mr. Rameshwar Agnibhoj (Harijan) and Mr. B. A. Deshmukh (Berar).

The C. P. and Berar Assembly will meet on Monday next.

BROADCASTING STATION FOR KARACHI

KARACHI, May 3 (A.P.I.): A broadcasting station for Karachi is likely to function from early 1947.

This was disclosed by the Sind P. W. D. Minister, Khan Bahadur M. A. Khuhro who had earlier discussions on the subject at Delhi with Sir Akbar Hydari, member for information and broadcasting, Government of India.

PRE-WAR AIR ACE COMMITS SUICIDE

BERLIN, May 4. (Reuter): Military Government authorities said to-day that Charles W. A. Scott, pre-war air ace, whose death at the UNRRA headquarters in Germany on April 15 was reported yesterday, had committed suicide in his quarters by shooting.

Both the military Government and UNRRA officials declined to divulge the motive for the suicide.

Scott, who was 43, won the England to Australia air race with Campbell Black in 1934.

STOP PRESS

COMPLETE EVACUATION BY RED TROOPS

NEW YORK, May 4 (Reuter): The Persian Ambassador to the United States, M. Hussein Ala, has been officially informed by the Persian Government that Soviet troops have completely evacuated the four northern provinces of Persia, and that Soviet troops are being rapidly withdrawn from Azerbaijan, a Persian spokesman stated here to-day.

The Persian Government has also informed M. Ala that it is confident the Russian troops would be completely withdrawn from Persia by May 6, the spokesman added.

This is the date fixed by the Soviet-Persian agreement and the resolution of the UNO Security Council of April 4.

PARTIAL SURRENDER AT ALCATRAZ

NEW YORK, May 4 (Reuter): Some of the cornered convicts in the Alcatraz prison surrendered to-day. It is thought that "four-to-six" mutineers are still holding out in the cells.

Plans have been completed for an all-out assault to seize the remaining desperadoes.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Vaishakh Shud 4, 2002.
Muslim: Jamadi-ul-Akher 3, 1365.
Parsi. Ader 4, 1315.
Sunrise: 6.9 a.m. Sunset 7.2 p.m.
Hightide: 02-04, 15.09
Lowtide: 0.8.14, 21.19.

Today's Engagements

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: "Masters of Wisdom" is the subject of a free public lecture to be delivered to-day (Sunday), at 6.15 p.m., at Jehangir Wadia Building, Opp. Flora Fountain.

GAUDIYA MISSION: Upadesak Pandit Sreepad Nitaidas Brahmachari Bhakti Sastri Ragalankar of Gaudiya Mission will explain Srimad Bhagabatam in English to-day at 6.30 p.m. Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road.

B. E. S. T. WORKERS' UNION: General meeting at 10 p.m., to-day, at Kamgar Maidan Parel.

PARIMAL SANGH: Meeting of friends taking interest in Folk-Literature will be held for starting 'Folk-Literature Union' under the presidentship of Shri Harilal Pandya, at 4.30 p.m., to-day, at New Education School, Chowpatty Road, (behind Hughes Road).

GOAN YOUTH LEAGUE: Public lecture at Gujrathi Forbes Hall, Vithal Bhai Patel Road, at 5.30 p.m., to-day. Prof. D. V. Pai will speak on 'Political Future of Goa'.

BOMBAY ANDHRA JANA SANGHAM: First Anniversary of the Sangham in Jai Hind Park near Sriram Mills, Fergusson Road, Worli, at 4-30 p.m., to-day. Mr. S. L. Silam will preside

MAZDAZNAN PRAYER MEETING: To-day (Sunday), at 10.30 a.m., at Alexandra Girls' School Hall, Hambandage and sermon by Dasturji Bode. At 6 p.m., Dasturji Bode will expound the philosophy of the Gathas.

SARASWAT CULTURAL CENTRE: Vocal music by Pandit Omkarnath Thakur, at 4 p.m., to-day (Sunday), at Wagle Memorial Hall, Sadashiv Lane, Kandewadi.

"SASHACHI SHINGE": Indian national Theatre (Marathi Section):—"Sashachi Shinge" a popular Marathi play written by Sjt. Madhav Manohar based on the Soviet comedy "Squaring the Circle", will be staged at the the Bombay Thetre (Grant Road, Corner), at 9-30 a.m., to-day.

SOUTH INDIAN SANGEETHA SABHA: A Grand Musical entertainment by Gana Kaladhara, Madura Mani Iyer—Vocal accompanied by Sri Govindaraju Pillai of Mayaveram—Volin and Kuttalam Sivadivelu Pillai—Mridangam, on Thursday, the 9th May, at 8.15 p.m. (S. T.) at the South Indian Education Society's High School Hall, Matunga, G. I. P.

B Ward Congress Election Postponed "Sine Die"

(Congress House Announcement.)

The Executive Committee of the B. P. C. C., which met to-day at the Congress House, unanimously resolved that in view of the very critical condition of Shri Bhulabhai J Desai, the Congress Delegates' Election in the 'B' Ward be postponed "sine die". The next date of the said election will be duly hereafter notified.

P. S. Narayan Contradicts

Mr. P. S. Narayan, Ex-R.I.N. Leading Stoker, writes:—

With regard to the reports given by the Army authorities on 3rd May 1946, about the charge and sentence of rigorous imprisonment awarded to me it is stated that I was charged and sentenced not for attempting to break open the Armoury of H.M.I.S "Bahadur", but for joining the Mutiny followed by non-violence on board H.M.I.S. "Bahadur" on 21st and 22nd February 1946. An attempt to break the armoury comes under violence charge, which I have never done and not read out to me at the time of awarding punishment on 2nd April 1946. The real cause for my being accused is supposed to be the presence of three Photos in my kit bag—Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, Netaji Subas Babu and Lt. Colonel Lakshmi—the lattertwo in Indian National Army uniform. These were found at the time of kit Inspection by the Executive officer of H.M.I.S. "Bahadur."

TO-DAY ON RADIO

BOMBAY—1
SUNDAY, May 5.

244 m (1,231 kc/s) 7-30 a.m. Flute Recital 7.40 News (M) 7.50 News (G) 8.0 News (E) 8.15 News (H) 8.30 Gajanan Karnad 8.45 Garba Manadar (G 9.0 J. L. Ranade 9.20 Gangubai Hangal 11-0 Film Music 11 45 Kavi-Parampara (M) 12.15 p.m. Niwruttibuwa Sarnaik 12.45 News (M) 12.50 News (G) 12.55 News (H) 1.0 Haribhau Ghangrekar Vocal 1.30 News (E) 1.40 Lunch Music 4.20 J L Ranade 4.45 Gajanan Karnad 5.15 Gammat Jammat 5.45 Topical 5.55 Locals 6.0 News (E) 6.10 News (H) 6.15 Marathi Songs 6.30 Ganpatrao Mohite 7.0 "Hire Ki Angoothi" 7.30 Gangubai Hangal 8.0 News (M) 8.15 News (G) 8.30 Music 8.45 English Theatre 9.0 News (H) 9.15 News (E) 9.30 B. B. C Nnws 9-40 Folk-Songs of India 10.10 Symphonic Hour Music (B).

Dr. Prem, Chairman of India League In Britain, now in India.

CONGRESS RECEPTION TO DR. PREM

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Under the joint auspices of the B. P. C. C., the Gujarat Society, the Arya Samaj and various other organisations of the city, an address of welcome was prnsented to Dr. Dhaniram Prem, prominent Indian leader of Birmingham at a public meeting this evening at the Congress House, Mr. Nagindas Master presiding.

The address spoke of the meritorious services rendered by Dr. Prem both in India and in England.

In the course of his reply Dr. Prem said that there were no communal differences among Indians in Britain and they would stand united in their fight for India's freedom. He said that the members of the recent Parliamentary Delegation were carrying on mischievous propaganda in favour of Pakistan, but it could not disrupt the solidarity of the Indian community in Britain.

KASTURBA GANDHI LIBRARY: Reception to Dr. Prem at Singhani Wadi, Dadiseth Agyari Lane, at 6 p.m., to-day.

FATAL LORRY ACCIDENT

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A party of pilgrims who had been to the Wajreswari temple met with a lorry accident yesterday in which one of them was killed and six injured.

Dashrat Ramchandra the deceased had gone to Wajreswari last week, along with his relatives. They were coming down in a lorry yesterday to Bassein in order to catch the train to Bombay, when on the way, the rear flap of the lorry suddenly opened and seven of the passengers were thrown on the road.

Dashrat died while being taken to the J. J. Hospital. The others are being treated at the Wajreswari hospital.

Discontent Among Sikhs

The General Secretary, Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Bombay, writes:—

Widespread discontent prevails in the Sikh community consequent on the arrest of a number of Sikhs by the Ahmedabad Police for wearing of Kirpans—their religious emblem.

The Executive Committee of the Sri Guru Singh Sabha, Bombay, met on Friday to consider the position and appointed Sardar Pratap Singh the well-known Sikh Congress leader to contact the authorities concerned and get the unwarranted restrictions on this religious right of the Sikhs removed.

Sardar Pratap Singh is proceeding to Ahmedabad on Wednesday to study the position on the spot before meeting the authorities concerned.

LICENCE FOR EXPORT OF RAW COTTON

The Export Trade Controller, Bombay, will henceforward license exports of raw cotton during the cotton year ending 31st August 1946. No export licence will however, be granted for any sale unless it is supported by a firm order of acceptance and proof of sale. The Export Trade Controller, Bombay will receive applications for the grant of export licences for sales of cotton made prior t 13th April 1946, upto 15th May 1946. Any applications for licences against sales made before 13th April, 1946 which may be received after 15th May will be rejected.

ALL-INDIA WEATHER

POONA, May 4. (A.P.I.)

Recorded at 8 hours (I.S.T.) today Ajmer 99 80 0 0.1 minus 0.1 Akola 106 85 0 0 minus 0.2 Allahabad 103 75 0 0.1 minus 0.1 Amraoti 115 78 0 0 minus 0.4 Bangalore 97 73 0 1.1 minus 1.0 Baroda 100 77 0 0 Nil Benares 102 74 0 1.0 plus 0.7 Bhopal 100 78 0 0 minus 0.2 BOMBAY 92 79 0 0 0 Calcutta 95 74 0.2 3.0 plus 0.7 Calicut 90 81 0 3.7 minus 0.5 Cawnporn 104 76 0 0.2 minus 0.1 Cocanada 93 83 0 2.1 plus 1.3 Colombo 89 83 0 12.9 plus 2.2 Cuttack 94 81 0 6.0 plus 4.8 Delhi 105 74 0 0 minus 0.4 Hyderabad (Dn) 104 87 0 0.5 minus 0.8 Indore 98 76 0 0 minus 0.1 Karachi 87 80 0 0 minus 0.1 Lahore 105 71 0 0.3 minus 0.3 Lucknow 103 68 0.5 1.6 plus 1.3 Madras 103 80 0 0.1 minus 0.5 Mahabaleshwar 81 61 0 3.5 plus 2.2 Mangalore 90 80 0 3.8 plus 2.0 Mysore 96 71 0 4.2 plus 1.3 Nagpur 106 84 0 1.3 plus 0.7 Negapatam 102 84 0 1.1 minus 0.1 Patna 97 69 0.2 1.7 plus 1.5 Poona 95 69 0 6.8 plus 0.1 Surat 92 79 0 0 0

On With The Show!

PARO'S NEXT

Filmistan's discovery, the fiery Paro, who played rival to the heroine of "Shikari", is now to be starred herself. Sun Rise Pictures have chosen her for the lead in DHANWAN, their new production. Jairaj will be the masculine half of the team.

Let us hope that the Sun Rise folk have shot their arrow well in their 'Shikar' for a glamorous female starlet.

*

SAHU PROTEGE

Besides being a successful actor-producer-director, Kishore Sahu may also claim to be a talent-finder. In 'Raja' and 'Sharara' he made a star out of an unknown called Ramesh Gupta. Now this same Ramesh has been signed up by Jayabharat Pictures to play the male lead in their forthcoming "RASILI."

Zahur Raja's favourite female star and wife to boot, Radha Rani has been cast opposite Ramesh in what promises to be, for him, his golden opportunity.

*

MYSTERY QUEEN

Neena who must hold the record for being mysteriously called 'mysterious' if you know what I mean, is to appear soon in Shalimar Pictures' PRITHVIRAJ SANYUKTA, in the flowery description of which her studio has utilised such a arrav of adjectives, that I am almost scared we film-scribes may have none left for our own occasional use—or misuse, of them!

"Prithviraj Sanyukta" seems to have a Romeo-Juliet theme, for it depicts its Rajput heroine as being enamoured of her father's enemy. The story is played to the musical accompaniment of S. K. Pal's score which contains the lyrics of Hazrat Malihabadi.

*

GHOST OF "REBECCA"

In Minerva Movietone's current picture-in-the-making entitled SHAMA, Mehtab enacts the difficult role of a woman who keeps alive "the flame of her husband's love" for a former wife. We earnestly hope and pray that the poor woman does not burn herself in the process.

The odd theme, somehow, is strongly reminiscent of Daphne du Maurier's "Rebecca". But of course one may expect producer Sohrab Modi to put new grills on the old fashion plate, what!

WHAT SATARA DOES TO-DAY MAHARASHTRA WILL DO TO-MORROW

Patwardhan Pays Tribute To Village Republic Which Ended Raj Temporarily

Interviewed by a Janata' correspondent, on the eve of his departure for Konegaon, District Satara, to preside over the meeting organized by the Satara District Congress Committee to give a reception to all rebel Congress workers of the District, Shri Achyut Patwardhan said:

"Satara has a tradition linking it to the freedom struggle since the rise of the Maharatha Empire. That it once more forged ahead in the vanguard is a symptom of the enduring spirit of the Maratha people. The reception organised for the rebel leaders is in a sense only a gesture; for is it not equally true that the outlaw was received in the Satara District by hundreds of villages and thousands of peasant houses as an honoured friend even in the face of grave risks and sufferings? This is, therefore, truly a tribute to the anonymous heroism of the land.

"We pay our tribute to this legend of heroism and reaffirm our faith in the new freedom which the struggles in Midnapur, Bailia and Bhagalpur heralded,—the freedom born in the village republics which ended British rule by their own strength for howsoever brief a period.

"Satara is not merely a glorious page of history, it is equally a promise of the new freedom which the village builds out of its own disciplined manhood and womanhood. We have much organisational work and training to do before our ambitious dreams can be realised.

"We build not for Satara alone, but what Satara does to-day, Maharashtra will do to-morrow.

"The village republic calls for a new stature of common manhood. Satara has set out on this hard road. Its strenuous efforts have a meaning for this land quite as much as its successes and reverses.

"Satara and Maharashtra pay their homage to Midnapur, Bhagalpur and Ballia where unseen hands wrought th same proud destiny and helped to build the proud land of 1946."

STOCK-EXCHANGE NO GAMBLING DEN

Shroff Congratulates Govt. On Extending Time For Ready Delivery Contracts

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Presiding over the annual general meeting of the Native Share and Stock Brokers' Association to-day, Mr. K. R. P. Shroff dismissed the Defence of India Rule 94-C as misconceived in its origin, mistaken in its purpose and mischievous in its operations, and congratulated the Government for meeting them half way by extending the time for Ready Delivery Contracts from seven to fifteen days. He was glad that with a single stroke, Government had halved the burden of clearing and settlement work and had greatly simplified his task of administration.

Referring to the criticism levelled against the Stock Exchange as "gambling den" Mr. Shroff said:—

"To those who have an open mind, I would point out that no physician, nor for that matter the patient himself, would blame the thermometer for recording the temperature of the ailing man."

WARNING TO GOVERNMENT

Mr. Shroff further warned the Government against introducing any ill-conceived legislation to curb the speculative activities. He said:—"The consequences of such hasty legislation will be serious not only to the Stock Exchanges but to the country at large for investment is the key to the country's economic prosperity and the Stock Markets are directly and indirectly the centres for mobilizing the savings of the people and directing their flow into channels of productive investments."

CEYLON'S SURPLUS COPRA FOR INDIA

KARACHI, May 4 (A.P.I.): The Ceylon Government has entered into a five-year agreement with His Majesty's Government for the sale of Ceylon's entire surplus of copra and cocoanut oil to the British Ministry of Food.

Sir Oliver Gonetilleka, Ceylon's Finance Minister who is now here on his return journey from United Kingdom to Ceylon disclosing this to 'A.P.I.' reporter said that India had been allotted a very large portion of the surplus of the commodity.

As regards rice, he felt that the intervention of Lord Killern in regard to the question of shipment of rice from Siam would produce very early results.

ON TRAIL OF GOLD THIEVES

MADRAS, May 4 (A.P.I.): In connection with the alleged theft of gold worth about Rs. 40,000 from the Railway parcel in transit from Bombay to Madras, the Railway Police have proceeded to Bombay for investigation. It is stated that a similar theft of gold worth a lakh of rupees occurred on this route a year ago Uptil now three incidents of this kind have occurred involving about a lakh of rupees each time. The Police authorities suspect that a regular gang has been at work on this.

The two parcels detained at Arkonam junction have now been seized by the police as the handwriting and seal on them are found to be identical with those on the one received in Madras.

BELGAUM, May 3 (API): Mr. M. P. Patel, Minister for Agriculture and Forests, Government of Bombay, visited Athani in Belgaum District yesterday. He discussed certain agricultural problems including the Grow More Food" campaign with the local Press this morning and returned to Bombay this evening.

U. S. TO TAKE OVER EXILED POLISH ARMY

Bill Introduced In Senate

WASHINGTON, May 3 (U.P.A): Senator Hugh Butler of Nebraska today introduced a measure to the Senate designed to permit that the U. S. "take over" the exiled Polish army of two-hundred thousand.

Butler said that many Polish troops had followed the "lead of the exiled Polish Government in London and now fear for their safety if they return to their Moscow dominated homeland despite the guarantees of safety given by the present regime in Warsaw.

DIED WHILE ACTING DYING SOLDIER'S ROLE

LOS ANGELES, May 4, (APA): In a theatre workshop auditorium, John Didanoff, 24, played a dying soldier's role and died.

Didanoff swallowed a harmless pill given to him by Lois Conklin, playing a nurse, as he occupied a make believe malaria infested foxhole.

Didanoff gasped realistically and slmped to the floor. The play proceeded, the curtain fell and fellow actors called to Didanoff to get up. Then they discovered Didanoff had died of what physicians said was a heart attack.

No Return Fire From Alcatraz Criminals

ALCATRAZ, SAN FRANCISCO, May 4, (APA): Marine police patrolling the waters of San Francisco Bay below the rocky prison fortress of Alcatraz reported by radio at 20.30 hours G.M.T. Friday that all was quiet on the riot-torn cell blocks above them and had been so for an hour.

At the same time, Alcatraz guards who had been using long range grenade throwers to bombard the convict-controlled area of the federal prison. buildings, ceased fire. They reported that the besieged criminals had delivered no return fire.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SYRIA AND LEBANON

Sir Alexander's Reply To Afifi Pasha

NEW YORK, May 4, (APA): British delegate Sir Alexander Cadogan reported to the United Nations Security Council's President, Afifi Pasha, today that measures had been taken by Britain to withdraw her troops from Syria and Lebanon in accordance with the Council's resolution of February 16.

Sir Alexander reported that withdrawals from Syria had been completed by April 15, 15 days ahead of the scheduled date.

He said the first 1,000 British troops to leave Lebanon departed with a similar number of French soldiers on and before March 31, the date requested. He added that the remainder of British troops, except for a small liquidation party, "would be out of Lebanon by June 30".

"This plan," said Sir Alexander, "was duly communicated to the Syrian and Lebanese Governments who suggested no modifications."

NEWSPRINT POSITION FAVOURABLE?

OTTAWA, (I.P.S.): Newsprint production in Canada, Newfoundland and U.S.A. totalled the greatest in January output on record, reports the Newsprint Service Bureau. Canadian mills produced 62,848 tons more in January 1946 than in January 1945, the total of 323,414 tons being a 24 per cent gain U. S. mills turned out 67,819 tons, a 12 per cent increase and Newfoundland mills accounted for 30,786 tons, 15 per cent better in January 1945. Stocks of combined newsprint total at the end of January were very favourable.

Soviet Russia's first ambassador to Brazil, Jacoz Zarovich Suritz is due to arrive here on My 12th.

WITH THE CALL TO ARMS, off went the Flit soldier to defend the Armed Forces against the disease caused by flies, mosquitoes, lice and other vile insects.

Acclaimed by fighting men for his powerful protection against all insect pests, the Flit soldier is back among us to defend you and your family against the disease and torture of flies that carry typhoid and dysentery; mosquitoes that propagate yellow fever and malaria; moths that destroy your clothing.

This means that Flit—with the familiar figure of the Flit soldier on the yellow and black tin—will be available when and where you want it.

Ask for—and be sure you get FLIT. Do not accept any substitutes for FLIT. Remember, if the soldier is not on the container, it is not FLIT.

FLIT GF 610

FLIT—DEADLY TO INSECTS, HARMLESS TO HUMANS

Lala Uttamchand, pilot of Netaji Subhas in Afghanistan, arrived in Bombay.

Non-European Appears At Bar Of South African Parliament

CAPETOWN, May 4 (A.P.A.): For the first time in history, a non-European appeared at the bar of the South African Parliament. He was Mohamed D. Barmania, Joint Secretary of the South African Indian Congress, who for 47 minutes read to the Senate of the Union Parliament the petition of the South African Indian Congress on the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill.

The galleries of the House were crowded as Barmania, wearing a red fez, walked to the oaken rail at the end of the Chamber.

Barmania said that for over half a century, European vested interests in Durban had engaged in the lucrative practice of selling land and property to Indians. Conflict of economic interests had eventually arisen and had been seized upon as an excuse for a racial attack upon Indians. He said there was no justification for the imposition on the Indian community of this type of communal franchise, the abolition of which had already been recommended by the Royal Commission in Ceylon.

He called this legislation "an outrage against the ideal of human freedom and principles incorporated in the Atlantic Charter.....and the United Nations Charter."

Barmania continued that so long as the Indian was a labourer, he was accepted as being useful to the community, but that once he rose above that condition he was looked upon as a menace.

After Barmania withdrew from the House, Minister of Interior Senator Clarkson moved the second reading of the Bill.

Barmania is the son of a farmer and trader in East Griqualand and is a graduate of the Calcutta University, where he obtained a Master of Arts degree in Economics. From 1922 he was Principal of the Nationalist College of Calcutta. He took a leading part in support of Mahatma Gandhi's boycott campaign.

Far Eastern Service Of B.O.A.C.

LONDON, May 4 (A.P.A.): The Ministry of Supply announced today it had ordered the construction of 12 new type solent flying boats for the use of the British Overseas Airways Corporation on its Far Eastern run.

The solents, four-engined craft with a passenger capacity of 36 each, will be built by Short Brothers at their Southern England plant. The total cost is 100.000 pounds sterling.

The British Overseas Airways Corporation said these new planes would be used on the extension of its present Far Eastern route to Hongkong and Shanghai

Church Buys Aeroplanes

MELBOURNE, (Reuter).

The Methodist Church of Australia has purchased two Fox Moth aircraft, and will equip them as ambulances for inland mission work. They will supplement the "Flying Doctor" service.

The planes are to be flown by two ministers of the Church, who will become "sky pilots" in the real sense of the word. Both are experienced flying men.

One will operate in the back country of Queensland the other in Central Australia. The planes will be fitted with radio and will assist the fying doctor by transporting emergency cases to hospital.

80 Jap Passengers Arrested

TOKYO, May 3 (UPA). Japanese police arrested eighty Japanese aboard a "pirate" ship which in numerous raids stole all but two hundred of an original 2300 tons from a grounded Japanese tanker in the Inland Sea. the newspaper Mainichi reported today.

BRITAIN NOT OBLIGED TO PAY BACK U. S. LOAN

Senator Wheeler Makes Virtue Of Necessity!

WASHINGTON, May 4 (UPA). Senator Burton K. Wheeler of Montana debating the proposed American loan to Britain, today declared that under the terms of the loan, Britain is never obligated to pay it back.

Moreover he said that "there were other countries which helped Britain to finance her war expenses besides the U. S."

"Britain owes India over six billion dollars as just one item in her sterling debt," Wheeler added. "We are informed that by the terms of this loan, these sterling debts will be refunded or written off. But who can say that England can get such countries as Malaya, Palestine, Egypt the Eire and India to transform their sterling fund into low interest and long term loans to Britain or write them off?"

Italian Newspaper Owners To Stand Trial

MILAN (Reuter).

The owners of Milan's great newspaper of the Fascist regime, "Corriere dolla Sera", the two brothers Mario and Aldo Crespi, are to stand trial for their Fascist activities, according to the ANSA news agency.

The indictment declares that in 1925 Mario and Aldo Crespi attacked Senator Luigi Albertini in their newspaper for having opposed Fascism and for having placed the "Corriere dolla Sera'" at the service of the Fascist regime.

Brazilian Communist Party May Be Dissolved

RIO DE JANEIRO, May 3, (UPA): An early dissolution of the Brazil Communist Party was reliably predicted today as the tense situation between the Government and Communist leaders approached a climax.

The tension reached new heights two days ago when the government prohibited all propaganda of "extremist ideas" and banned May Day parades.

The Communist Party was legalized in Brazil last November for the first time. The government now charges, however, that although the Communists have been given full freedom, they "threaten the country with civil war or potential revolution."

Minister of War General Eurelio Demonteiro warned that the government would "relentlessly outlaw anyone advocating violence" in politics.

Austria Restores French And Russian Treasures

VIENNA (Reuter)

In the next few days 600 cases of books will leave the Austrian province of Carinthia on the first stage of their journey home to the Rothschild Family library in Paris.

The books form part of an enormously valuable library of books stolen from France and Russia by the Nazi "Commando Rosenberg" and collected in the Carinthian monastery of Tanzenberg.

The Soviet authorities have been requested by the Austrian government to collect that portion of the library which was stolen by the Nazis from Russian collections.

"Queen Victoria" Opal For Royal Presentation

SYDNEY (Reuter)

An opal, in which appears an image of Queen Victoria, will be offered to the Commonwealth Government for presentation to either the Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester, or Lord Louis Mountbatten.

The offer will be made to the Prime Minister, Mr. Joseph Chifley, by Mr. R. V. Marks, principal of Percy Marks, Sydney gem merchants and opal specialists.

Both the Duke and Lord Louis are great-grandsons of Queen Victoria.

The opal, which is of oval cut and measures three-quarters of an inch by three-eighths, shows an image of Victoria, which is almost identical with her image on coins minted during her reign.

Perpetual Flame In Rachel's Tomb

BETHLEHEM (Reuter)

A perpetual flame has been lit in an eight-branched silver candelabra placed in Rachel's Tomb, at the foot of the "Field of Ephrata" near Bethlehem, in memory of six million Jews murdered in Europe under the Nazi regime.

The flame was kindled by Chief Rabbi Dr. Isaac Herzog, formerly of Dublin, in the presence of many distinguished rabbis and sages at a local Jewish silversmith, was presented by the Sabbath Observance Union of Palestine.

Exclusive

THE INDIAN DEADLOCK BROKEN?

The British Cabinet Mission has scored a decisive success.

It has brought the two leading Indian parties into conference under its guidance to shape the future of their common country. The long years of deadlock are ended.

Throughout a generation it was Tory policy to keep these two apart; today it is a Labour Government that has brought them together. With infinite patience the three ministers talked with the League and the Congress separately, probing, questioning, emphasising points of agreement and minimising differences, until at last there emerged a basis of discussion. The thing was possible only because both sides realised at last that British rule over India has had its day and that independence is within their grasp.

Looking back over these five weeks of incessant work, it is now possible to grasp the Mission's aim. Why was it so patient and so silent? The purpose was to help Indians to settle their own future. It was ready to play the part of a mediator. What it wished above all to avoid was that it should be forced into dictating a settlement or giving an award. This was not easy. In the past British Governments have always played that part.

Hopeful Omens

It had become a habit of Indians to expect it; in their weaker moments many of them wished for it. Again and again, during these weeks of suspense, I have met with this state of mind even among their leading men. But the instinct of the Mission was sound. Independence will be a reality, only if Indians lay its foundations with their own hands. A dictated settlement would have to be imposed and that is not the way to surrender power.

It is too early to assume that the goal has been won, but in the balance the omens are hopeful. For long it seemed doubtful whether the Muslim League really wished for a settlement. Its consent to meet the Congress without exacting an unconditional surrender is a long step towards reason and conciliation. Secondly, though neither side likes the suggested solution, both have accepted it as a basis of discussion. That is an immense advance.

The Muslims no longer refuse to recognise some form of Indian unity; Congress within that framework will concede some form of Pakistan. I wish I could report that public opinion is hopeful and confident. So far as I can gauge it, it is anxious and bewildered. The fear of disorder haunts it and it expects a long and difficult debate at Simla. The Congress made grave mistake when it chose two Muslims, though both are men of character and distinction, to sit on its delegation of four. In this selection the League will see a challenge.

Choice Before Princes

The suggested compromise is not at first sight inspiring. A long experience of "Divide to Rule" created a communal rivalry so deep-seated, that only a choice of evils confronts us. The lesser evil is to avoid the division of India into wholly separate states. By linking them together in a single union for purposes of foreign policy, defence and communications, two zones come into the picture at once—the four provinces which have a Muslim majority and the seven which are predominantly Hindu. Two federations may be formed from these groups of provinces, and these in turn may agree to constitute an Indian union.

There remains however, a third group, the Princes' States, which will have no choice but to join the Union eventually. That prospect used to alarm democrats, before independence was assured. To-day we may face it with equanimity. These States were strongholds of feudalism and reaction, only so long as their princes could rely on the support of the British Crown as the paramount power and on the British Army. But with the signature of the treaty that recognises India's independence, paramountcy of the Crown will lapse and the States will have to deal with the Indian Union.

The British Army will be withdrawn. If by agreement some few British troops remain for a time in two or three military bases, it will be provided that they play no part in India's internal affairs. In this environment the Princes must adjust themselves rapidly to the standards of the twentieth century. When that happens, their States should fill a useful part as a balancing factor in the Union.

Interim Government

The conference will have to discuss this solution in further detail and efforts will doubtless be made by both sides to amend it. In its final form it will serve as a directive to the interim National Government that must be formed before the Cabinet Mission leaves India. With the details of the future constitution neither the Mission nor the British Government is concerned. All that concerns them is to arrive at an agreed procedure by which the Constitution shall be drafted and adopted.

The first step is to decide how the interim government is to be constituted. Presumably it will represent the Congress and the League on a

By H. N. BRAILSFORD

The Simla Conference is a triumph for the British Cabinet Mission. Will it also lead to a triumphant solution of the deadlock between the League and the Congress?

footing of parity with the addition of spokesmen of other groups such as the Sikhs and the Scheduled Castes. Its duty will be to preside over the process of self-determination, while carrying on the day-to-day administration—no light task with a famine to ward off.

By some method that satisfies both parties the disputed frontiers of the provinces in the Muslim area will have to be redrawn. Either at Simla or afterwards a method must be accepted, whether plebiscite or a vote of the Legislature, by which Provinces will adhere to one of the future federations or the other. These are thorny questions and it may be necessary to call in a mixed commission to decide them. Finally, the constitution-making body has to be chosen—presumably by the Provincial Assemblies.

Scope Of Union

Will there be one such body or two? It is in accordance with commonsense that each group of Provinces should form its own constituent body to draft its own federal constitution. The two will then come together to frame a constitution for the Indian Union. It is indispensable that both its units should adopt an identical charter securing the rights of minorities. The Princes States have also to be fitted into this pattern, probably at a later stage.

In outline this is a workmanlike procedure. As to the solution itself criticism is easy, but to improve it at this stage may not be feasible. Its merit is that it ensures India's unity and safety in this dangerous world. The Union will be slight and rudimentary structure. But it avoids the danger that the two federations might follow divergent foreign policies and drift into rival international camps. If all goes well, the Indian Army will remain a united organism under a single command. Drawn as it is from all the creeds and religions of the peninsula it should be a powerful influence for unity. A common system of communications will have the same effect.

It is disappointing that the Union will have no control over the economic life of the two partners. I had hoped, when I forecast this solution in my last article, that its powers might have covered both customs and currency. There is thus no provision for economic planning on an all-India scale. In this land of recurrent famines even food is outside the competence of the Union. What can be done in the economic field to ensure co-operation will have to be left to negotiation between the two federal governments.

A Promising Future?

In spite of these defects the compromise deserves a welcome. The root of the mischief between the two creeds today is that Muslims are suffering from a corroding sense of inferiority. They dread the overwhelming numbers of the Hindu majority. Even more do they fear its economic power. They know that they are backward in education, industry and finance. Once they have their own state under their own flag, they will lose their fears and may become better neighbours, as their sense of confidence grows. Congress wished to include the Muslim provinces within an all-Indian federation.

If it could have succeeded in its purpose, it would have had to make some concessions, fatal to democracy notably the perpetuation of separate communal electorates. It is now free to plan Hindustan on its own lines. It will be able to build a strong centre within it, which can set up a planned economy over two thirds of India. Nor need it water down its democratic principles. As the years go on, the Indian union may grow in two ways. It may come to deal with other common interests as vital as defence and it may include other regions within its cope, Ceylon for example and Burma. The Mission has cleared the road to a promising future; it remains for Indians at Simla to pass through the open gate.

Postscript:

A wave of pessimism submerged Delhi when Mr. Jinnah delayed his departure for Simla and postponed the meeting of the conference by three days. Indians are rarely guilty of discourtesy but Mr. Jinnah maintains that he is not an Indian.

As a consequence of his crude tactics the attitude of the Congress also has stiffened. This may be an exaggerated reaction for the fact remains that after years of deadlock the two parties are about to meet. But if the conference is to succeed the mission will have to assert itself more decidedly than it has yet done.

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SOUTH AFRICA RETALIATES AGAINST INDIA?

PRETORIA, May 4. (Reuter): entering the Union of South Africa from India will, after June 25, be subject to maximum duty rates. A Government notice published here says that by the notice of December 8, 1944 intermediate rates of duty were extended to certain goods which were imported from India on account of the trade agreement between the two countries. "In view of the notice, of termination of the agreement given by the Government of India, such goods will on and after June 25 become liable to maximum rates".

American Wants Monday Holidays

NEW YORK, (Reuter.)

Newest of the many groups sponsoring particular causes in the United States is "The National Association of Monday Holidays."

In corporated here, it is dedicated to promote celebratiion of most one-day holidays on Monday. As one of its first acts the organisation has urged observance of Decoration Day, a national holiday when exservicemen's graves are decorated with flowers on the last Monday in May instead of May 30.

Mr. Archibald P. Watson, New York County Clerk, a director of the new body, said its purposes include allowance for longer and more restful weekends "instead of having the different legal holidays falling oft-times in midweeks observed by bank and business closings on the calendar dates on which they fall."

Mr. Watson said, however, the group does not plan to ignore historic or partiotic dates and anniversaries and does not wish at present to effect Christmas, New Year's or American Independence Day (July 4) dates.

As a precedent for the Monday plan, Mr. Watson said bank holidays in England always are fixed for Mondays.

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Air Service To Kathiawar Resumed

Jam Saheb Determined On Making People Airminded

BOMBAY, Saturday: The air service between Bombay and Kathiawar, which was suspended on the outbreak of the war, was resumed on Friday morning when the first passenger plane left the Juhu aerodrome for Jamnagar and Bhuj, the capitals of Nawanagar and Cutch States. A party consisting of four local pressmen and some high officials of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company Limited flew in a special plane an hour before the first service boat took off, to be present at the inauguration ceremonies at the two State capitals which were performed respectively by the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar and the Maharajkumar of Cutch.

GOD-SEND TO JAMNAGAR

Inaugurating the air service, that will function under the name of Air Services of India Ltd., the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar said: "The world is fast becoming air-minded. The comparatively slow method of travelling by the Railways is sure to be replaced by the remarkable facilities offered by the air companies. I for one would strive to make my people thoroughly air-minded.

The Jamsaheb observed that his state had been by-passed by the railways for a long time. It was almost isolated from the outside world. But, he said, what was geographically a disadvantage to the railways, would now become a godsend to the aeronautical services. The Jamsaheb continued: "Nawanagar State will soon become the crux of a well-knit air service between Karachi and Bombay. Jamnagar cannot be bypassed by any air company."

Wishing the Air Services of India Ltd. all success, the Jamsaheb expressed the hope that the new airlines would place his State on the map of India again.

Welcoming the Maharajkumar of Cutch, at the inauguraton ceremony held on the outskirts of Bhuj town, Mr S J. Pandya of the Scindias observed: "Except for a few inevitable cancellations, a 100 per cent regularity was maintained last time and we shall try our utmos to maintain the same standard in future."

DAKOTAS IN SERVICE

The Company has at present two Dakota planes and eight more are being assembled at Bangalore. One of them will be a de luxe aircraft and another a freighter.

"Gagan Duta" and "Gagan Deepa", the two Dakotas now in service, were completely overhauled, fitted with new engines and converted to Air Liner standards at the Hindusthan Aircraft Factory in Bangalore.

The seats are all adjustable to suit the passengers' needs and are very comfortably upholstered—one in green and the other in blue. Window curtains to match are provided so that glare can be excluded. Each passenger is provided with an air duct which can be controlled at will and also an individual reading light for night flights. A hot air duct is provided and the cabin is heated if the outside temperature is very cold.

The route from the palm-fringed seashore of Juhu covers a varied vista of picturesque scenery interspersed with green patches of rural life, fine sandy coast-lines, hillocks like Girner and Palitana, sacred to the Jains, and ancient temples. Capt. Burbury and Wing Commander Moore, who piloted the special plane, kept the passengers informed about these interesting spots.

At Jamnagar the pressmen met the Jamsaheb of Nawanagar in the evening. During the course of an informal chat, the Jamsaheb answered questions and explained the politics of Princely India.

"We are ever willing and ready to extend our hand of co-operation to British India in every major affair affecting the future of the country as a whole", the Jamsaheb told the representative of the "Bombay Chronicle."

LONDON CIVIL LIBERTIES COUNCIL SUPPORTS UNION INDIANS

"No Place For Racial Discrimination Under United Nations"

LONDON, May 3 (A.P.A.): A Conference of the National Council for Civil Liberties in London last night unanimously passed a resolution expressing itself "profoundly shocked" by anti-Indian legislation in South Africa.

The Conference agreed to send a copy of the resolution to British Prime Minister Attlee, South African Prime Minister Field Marshal Smuts and Viscount Addison, Dominions Secretary.

It stated that the Council, "believing all forms of racial discrimination to be alien to the spirit of civil liberty and democracy and opposed to the principles of the United Nations, and profoundly shocked by the racial discrimination revealed in the recent attempts to segregate Indians in South Africa and by the terms of the Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill, protests against these measures and urges that the projected legislation be abandoned and the rights of full citizenship be accorded to the Indians in South Africa."

The Conference was addressed by Messrs. Ashwin Choudhry and P. R. Pather, member of the South African Indian Congress delegation. Mr. Choudhry said the land tenure bill was the latest of 63 laws on the South African statute book which "restrict, curb and undermine the status of Indians" and which inflicted "smarting indignities" upon them.

The Government of India, he added, had broken off trade relations with that country, and was "virtually pledged to raise the question of anti-Indian discrimination at the next assembly of the United Nations in September."

"South Africa has made it quite clear she is going to ask for the incorporation of South-West Africa, at present mandated by her, into the Union". Choudhry continued. "I think India is going to have something to say about that and so will the other 52 nations. I think they will ask 'If this is how you treat your subject people, how can you qualify to be given new territory on the African continent?'"

Black Boy Thrown Out

FRANKFURT, May 3 (Reuter): The German Frauleins accompanying American Soldiers last night persuaded their escorts to throw a Negro soldier out of a night club here.

The Provost-Marshal Colonel R. C. Conolly said to-day that there was no order to justify such discrimination and that he was investigating the incident.

INDIA MUST HELP HERSELF, SAYS NANAVATY

LONDON, May 4. (U.P.I.): "India must help herself because no one else will". This is the bitter comment made by Sir Manilal Nanavaty, Member of the Indian Food Delegation to Washington in an interview with the United Press of India to-day discussing the prospects of outside help in Indian famine.

Sir Manilal, after a close study of the food position in America and his talks with the various officials there gathered the impression that adequate supplies would not be forthcoming for India. "India has been discriminated against", he said, "and there is hardly any possibility that enough foodgrains will be shipped to India in time to avert the disastrous famine that has already overtaken the country".

French Go To Polls On New Constitution To-day

PARIS, May 4, (Reuter): More than 25,000,000 French men and women will be called upon to-morrow to vote on the new constitution.

The last words are being said to-night in a whirlwind election campaign carried out with intense energy by all parties, by Press, poster, radio, public meetings and the most prolific street chalking campaign seen in France for many years.

To-morrow's vote is regarded by all parties as of extreme importance because it will not only of on the issue whether the country prefers a single to double chamber constitution but will also show whether the nation is overwhelmingly Left-wing with a predominantly Communist flavour or whether some reaction has set in as the result of the revolutionary tendencies which have been evident since General de Gualle left office.

The Communist and Socialist parties and a handful of dissident Radicals are in favour of the new constitution. All the other parties are against it and argue that it is a threat to personal and civic liberties.

Varying forecasts have been made as to the way the vote will go. A number of "straw votes" have so far indicated victory for the parties in favour of the new constitution.

KING'S FILLY WINS THOUSAND GUINEAS

NEW MARKET, May 3, (Reuter): Hyperion won the 'Thousand Guineas.' Neolight the favourite was second and Iona third. One and half lengths separated the first and the second and three fourth between second and third. The filly is by Hyperion out of feola.

FRENCH ALLEGATION AGAINST CHINEE

TOKYO, May 3 (U.P.A.): Due to a delay in rice rationing, residents of the Nishiarai District stormed the local rationing office, according to a report of the Jiji News Service.

In the Mitakacho area, 400 men forced the rationing officers to distribute two days bread rations.

200 workers in the Oji area threatened to strike unless emergency rice rations were issued.

He Played Piano Before Hitler

Funk Says He Was Only A "Lukewarm Nazi"

NUREMBERG, May 4. (Reuter): Pleading that he was only a "Lukewarm" Nazi, 56-year-old Walter Funk, former German Minister of Economics, told the War Crimes Tribunal today that he used to play piano before Hitler in the early thirties.

"Hitler always liked my music", Funk said as he sat back comfortably in the witness box to continue evidence on his own behalf.

Then, rather sadly, he added, "later on he did not ask me to play any more. I do not know why. I have never been able to find out whether he had something against me or not".

Funk who is stated by his counsel to be a sick man told the Tribunal that he had never been anti-Semitic and had never attended Nazi party rallies. "Mass meetings always made me ill", he said.

Of Hitler, Funk said, "His mind worked with lightning speed and he seemed to discuss problems with himself in rarefield atmosphere".

Yank Shot Dead For Picking Up Cigarette Butt

RANGOON, May 4. (A.P.I.): Allegation that an American war prisoner was murdered by a Japanese guard for picking up a cigarette butt dropped by a Japanese guard in the law courts jail was made by the prosecution when the third of the series of Japanese War Criminals trials opened here.

The prosecution further alleged that prisoners were kept in cells like those provided for pigs and had to sit cross legged all day. Talking or any relaxation was a crime punishable by immediate beatings by prison guards.

U. S. PREJUDICED AGAINST TRYGVE LIE?

LONDON, May 4 (UPI): A sensational revelation that the United States would very much like to see M. Trygve Lie out of his present job of the Secretary-Generalship of the United Nations Organization in view of his pro-Russian views was made by the famous American columnist Drew Pearson yesterday.

Commenting on the proceedings of the Security Council in New York through his widely published syndicated columns, Pearson writes, "To Secretary Byrnes and Senators Connally and Vandenberg the most troublesome thing in the Security Council meeting was the sympathy of the Secretary-General Lie for Russia. They would love to release Lie, elected for five years, from his job."

SWAMPING SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR SOVIET DOMESTIC LOAN

LONDON, May 3 (A.P.A.): Subscriptions are reported pouring in from all parts of the Soviet Union for the new twenty thousand million rouble domestic loan announced by Moscow radio today.

The radio said that workers offered from six weeks' to three months earnings, although the Government had appealed for only a month's pay from each person.

BURHANUDDIN'S APPEAL

Engineer's Interpretation Of Word "Native"

NEW DELHI, May 4, (A. P. I.): Concluding his arguments, in the Federal Court in the appeal against Lahore High Court's refusal to issue a writ of "habeas corpus" in favour of Captain Burhanuddin of the I. N. A., the Advocate General Sir Nosherwan Engineer, contenled that the "native" officers and soldiers in respect of whom the Indian Legislature was entitled to legislate under the Act of 1833 were natives of the East Indies or of the territories within the limits of the Company's Charter. The very fact that no territory was mentioned implied that there was no definition of "India" at that time. The word native was used in contradistinction to European. If the word was used to indicate natives of any particular territories those territories must be the East Indies or the territories within the limits of the Company's Charter and no other.

The Court adjourned to consider its judgment, which is expected to be delivered on Thursday.

Sir Alladi On Limitations Of Indian Legislature

NEW DELHI, May 3 (A.P.I.): Resuming his arguments in the federal court in an appeal against the Lahore High Court's refusal to issue a writ of Hebeas Corpus in favour of Captain Burhanuddin (of the I.N.A.) Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Iyer today reiterated his contention that the Indian legislature, which passed the Indian Army Act of 1911, had no power to enact laws having extra-territorial effect.

Sir Alladi said that under the Regulating Act of 1772, the civil and military government was vested in the Governor-General in Council. The power to make laws (under Section 36) related only to civil government. The various acts passed by Parliament in relation to articles of war related only to British services recruited in England and sent over to India for service under the East India Company.

Sir Nosherwan Engineer, Advocate-General, said that the test whether a person could be punished for acts done outside the State was whether the person concerned was under obligation to obey the laws of the State and whether, correspondingly, there was an obligation on the part of the State to protect that person. It would be extraordinary if a person who held a commission in the Indian Army did not come in this category.

Sir Nosherwan had not concluded when the court rose for the day.

1,000 CRORES FOR POST-WAR PLANS?

Provincial Ministers To Confer At Delhi: Schemes To Be Put Through Early

NEW DELHI, May 4, (A. P. I.): Provincial Ministers in charge of Post-war Reconstruction will meet here on May 20 and 21 under the Chairmanship of Sir Akbar Hydari, Member for Planning and Development to consider the question relating to the financing and execution of the year's plans of the Provinces.

The Central Government hopes to set apart 500 crores out of the revenue surpluses and raise a similar amount by loan for financing the Central and Provincial post-war plans during the next five years. It is estimated that the Provinces will receive about 250 to 300 crores out of the revenue surphyses, and they have been informed provisionally that the amount will be distributed on the basis of population.

One of the important issues to be considered by the conference is the measure of control which should be exercised by the Centre in the expenditure of the Central grant.

The Government of India realises that subjects like Education, Health, Roads and other matters which will loom large in Post-war reconstruction come within the provincial sphnre. At the same time, it is anxious that certain broad objective are maintained throughout India.

REASONS FOR DELAY.

It is understood that all the provinces have accepted Sir Akbar's invitation to attend the conference, which has been delayed so far pending the formation of popular Ministries. In calling the conference Government also considered whether it would not be better to wait till there was a change of Government in the centre but decided against its postponement on the ground that the post-war plans had to be put through as early as possible and that the issues were very largely administrative and did not involve matters of high policy. It was also considered that the plans would be put through by provincial Government and that what matters now is that all provincial Governments to-day are responsible to the Legislature.

DECISION ON RAILWAY STRIKE TO-DAY

95% OF WORKERS FAVOUR DIRECT ACTION

Attempt To Assault Jamnadas Mehta Fails: Giri Resigns

BOMBAY, Saturday: Twelve of the representatives of 23 railway unions in the country submitted brief reports with regard to the strike ballots in their respective spheres when the Council of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation met this evening at the Anjuman-e-Islam Hall.

The strike issue will come up for debate on Sunday when the lid is expected to be off one of the most ominous uncertainties now taxing the man-in-the-street.

Nonetheless, from the temper of the conclave access to which was denied to the Press, it was the easiest thing to perceive that a majority of them would fanatically plump for a strike. One representative told "Chronicle" reporter that 95 per cent of the Railwaymen favoured direct action.

GIRI'S RESIGNATION

At the outset Mr. V. V. Giri, President of the Federation, expressed his intention to resign from the presidentship. The resignation was accepted after which Mr. R. A. Khedgikar, Vice-President of the Federation, took the chair for the time being in order to conduct the proceedings. A decision regarding the election of the new President would be taken on Sunday. The representatives unanimously passed a resolution placing on record Mr. Giri's services to the Federation and to the cause of the railwaymen.

It is gathered that Mr. Gurusami, General Secretary of the Federation, in the course of a speech categorically denied an agency report from Nagpur to the effect that he had expressed himself against a strike ballot being taken by the various unions. He explained at length that when he referred to at Nagpur dealt only with the legal aspects of the issue. Mr. Gurusami said that he never opposed a strike bollot. It may be recalled that much acrimonious disputation was caused amongst railway union members by that report.

The day's meeting of the Council, though it did not touch even the fringe of the momentous "To-Strike-or-Not-to-Strike" issue, showed which way the wind was blowing so far as the railwaymen and their union leaders were concerned.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST JAMNADAS MEHTA

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, the Government of India's Agent in Rangoon and an ex-President of the Federation, was present at the meeting for about an hour, but had to leave the hall in the face of hostile circumstances.

When the President, at the commencement of the meeting, asked non-members to quit the hall some of them began shouting slogans against Mr. Jamnadas Mehta. He was asked to come out of the hall as he was a non-member of the Council. The President explained to the demonstrators that Mr. Mehta, by virtue of his having been once the President of the Federation, had every right to stay in the hall. Meanwhile, the number of the demonstrators had swelled and the shouting was so intense that the Council could not proceed with its business. After about an hour of annoying cat-calling by the crowd, Mr. Mehta shook hands with Messrs. Giri, Khedgikar and others and walked out of the hall closely followed by the angry demonstrators. Surging around him, they began to shout slogans like "Jamnadas Mordabad", "No Place for Traitors Here", "British Quislings Quit" etc. As Mr. Jamnadas Mehta was about to board his car, one of the demonstrators tried to assault him but he was rescued in time by a sober section of the crowd

GIRI'S APPEAL TO GOVT.

Bombay, Saturday: In an interview to the "Bombay Chronicle", Mr. V. V. Giri, Minister to the Government of Madras and the ex-President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, said: "The ballots recently taken disclose again that railway men feel that all issues, placed by the Federation, are to be disposed of at the earliest opportunity. I would once more urge on the Government of India, with the experience I possess both as a trade Unionist and a Labour Minister, that they should not merely stand on prestige but immediately allow the present adjudicator to deal with these issues as well. It will not be difficult for the Railway Board to put up before the Tribunal their views regarding the railwaymen's wage structures."

A MOMENTOUS ISSUE

Preliminary to the Council meeting there were informal consultations among the various groups of railway leaders on Saturday afternoon. Mr. V. V. Giri, arrived in the city in the morning.

It is admitted by all sections in the Federation that the grievances of the workers are genuine and pressing. More than five of the ten lakhs of railway workers get a basic wage of less than Rs. 20 per month; many thousands of them, gangmen and others, are getting wages from Rs. 9 to Rs. 15. At the same time, the railway department is notoriously top heavy, the average salary of a gazetted officer being as high as Rs. 1,400. The Railway Board has categorically rejected the plea of the Railwaymen's Federation that there is a case for immediate increase of wages.

The railway workers have received a raw deal even in the matter of dearness allowance. A committee presided over by Justice B. N. Rao reported in 1941 that they should get an increment of Rs. 1/8 for every rise of five points in the cost of living index. On this basis the workers should have got a dearness allowance of Rs. 42 at present. But the actual amount paid varies from Rs 22 to Rs. 31, which is Rs. 19 to Rs 11 less what is their due.

THREE MONTHS' BONUS

The workers have also demanded a bonus of three months' wages. They claim that this is a legitimate demand in view of the fact that the railways made a profit of Rs. 200 crores during the war years. Every other industry also made profits; but they paid excess profits tax and also liberal bonuses. The railways which are now almost entirely state owned pay no taxes nor give any bonus to its workers.

Over and above these monetary demands the threat of a large scale retrenchment hangs over the heads of the railway workers. The Railway Board has almost three lakhs of workers on a temporary basis, their services liable to be terminated at 24 hours notice.

The Federation started agitating these issues as early as 1944 and since November that year it has carried on interminable negotiations. All that has resulted is that the Railway Board has agreed to refer to adjudication the comparatively unimportant issues of leave rules and reduction of hours of employment.

While all this is admitted, a section of the Union leaders represented in the Federation are of the view that the time is most inopportune. With a most serious famine threat hanging over the land, to call for a railway strike is virtually to invite disaster. But this view is resisted by another section, chiefly under Communist leadership, who see in this situation a great opportunity. They plead that the undoubted need of the country should not make the authorities blind to the need of the workers and that on the other hand, this should be a special reason for treating their demands in a generous manner

NON-UNIONS ALSO WITH THEM

Of the ten lakhs of railway workers only a quarter are enrolled in regular Unions; but as a trial six-hour strike of the B. N. Railway workers showed, the preponderant majority of non-union labour also appears to be with the Union workers. As far as the Union workers are concerned, over one lakh and sixty thousand of them, voting in secret ballot have expressed themselves in favour of a strike

While railway workers all over India are eagerly watching for the signal from Bombay, the general public finds itself in a somewhat unenviable position. While undoubtedly sympathising with the grievances of the workers, they are painfully conscious of the terrible disaster that is likely to befall the country if the railways are stopped altogether.

Giri Meets Bombay Ministers

Mr. V. V. Giri, Labour Minister in the Madras Government met Mr. B. G. Kher, Prime Minister, Mr. Dinkarrao Desai, Minister for Civil Supplies, Dr. M. D. D. Gilder, Minister of Health, Mr. Morarji Desai Home Minister, and Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, Minister for Labour, at the Secretariat, today. It is learned that Mr. Giri discussed with Mr. Kher and Mr. Desai matters relating to the supply of textiles to Madras. It seems that the Madras Province has no been getting for some time past the full quota of cloth-allotted to it.

Mr. Giri discussed labour problems with Mr. Nanda.

He is leaving for Madras on Sunday.

Azad Intimates Viceroy With Railwaymen's Grievances

SIMLA, May 4 (U.P.I.): The United Press of India understands that Maulana Azad has written to the Viceroy regarding the grievances and complaints of Indian railwaymen. In his letter the Congress President, it is further learnt, has drawn the attention of the Viceroy to the widespread discontent which obtains today among the railwaymen and has said that he has every sympathy with their grievances and support for the Railwaymen's Federation's demand for submitting them for adjudication.

It is learnt that the Viceroy is looking into the matter.

MAYNARD ON AZAD'S ADVICE

MADRAS, May 4, (API): "The Congress President's appeal to railwaymen not to resort to direct action is most timely and well-advised and I hope the railwaymen will pay heed to the same," said Mr. R. DE K. MAYNARD, General Manager, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway at a press conference today.

STRIKES IN BOMBAY MILLS

BOMBAY, Saturday: 950 workers of the Richardson and Cruddas went on strike since yesterday demanding a change in the lunch hour.

1,800 workers of the Madhavji Dharamsi Mills went on strike this morning demanding reinstatement of two workers who were dismissed.

The strike in the Sakseria Mills is continuing. An attempt to break the strike was foiled by the workers who beat the blacklegs severely.

CALCUTTA FIRE-SERVICE MEN RESUME WORK

CALCUTTA, May 4. (A.P.I.): The twelve-days old strike of about 1,600 fire-service workers of Calcutta and suburbs was ended to-day, and the men resumed work this morning.

During the period of the strike fire calls were attended to by men who had not joined the strike.

TWELVE HOUR STRIKE CALLED OFF.

JERUSALEM, May 3, (U. P. A.): The twelve-hour strike on the part of the Arabs ended to-night with all stores, shops, cafes, restaurants and cinemas open as usual. Arab taxis and autobuses resumed service and all but ordinary police and military precautions were removed. Jamal Husseini, who appeared at the Arab office to-night, refused to divulge what he discussed with the High Commissioner this morning.

SASTRI'S DEATH MOURNED

BOMBAY, May 4 (A. P. I.): The Council of Imperial Citizenship Association, Bombay, has adopted a resolution recording their deep sense of loss at the passing away of the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri.

The Council in its resolution referred to the profound interest taken by Mr. Sastri in every phase and aspect of the struggle for equal citizenship for Indians abroad. His death at this juncture, said the resolution, "leaves a void that cannot be filled. In the South African crisis that threatens, his mature wisdom and ripe experience will be greatly missed."

Sastri Memorial Hall

MADRAS, May 3 (A.P.I.): To perpetuate the memory of the late Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, it was resolved at a public meeting of the young men's Indian association, Madras, to erect a memorial hall after his name. A Committee has been appointed with Dr. Alagappa Chettiar as President to collect funds for the purpose.

NEHRU DID IT

How Proceedings Against I.N.A. Men Were Dropped

SIMLA, May 3 (U.P.I.): Enquiries made by the "United Press of India" special representative elicit the information that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's talks with the Viceroy yesterday related principally to the question of further trials of I.N.A. officers.

It may be recalled that the Government of India announced on April 23 their decision to proceed with trials of two I.N.A. officers. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is understood to have addressed immediately a letter to the Viceroy pointing out the incongruity of fresh trials with the Cabinet Mission's activities.

The Viceroy is reported to have forwarded this letter of Pandit Nehru with favourable comments to the Commander-in-Chief with the result that the contemplated trials have been dropped.

The "United Press of India" gathers from informed official sources that the Viceroy communicated the Government of India's decision not to proceed with further I. N. A. trials at yesterday's interview to Pandit Nehru.

Gen. Mohan Singh Released

NEW DELHI, May 4. (U.P.I.): General Mohan Singh of the I. N. A. was unconditionally released from Kabul Lines, Delhi, today after dismissal from the Indian Army and after signing a bond to the effect that he would not appeal against it. A reception will be held tomorrow in honour of all the I. N. A. officers released from Kabul Lines.

AZAD WELCOMES GOVT. DECISION ON I. N. A.

SIMLA, May 44 (API): Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Congress President, in a statement today welcomes the decision of the Government of India to drop all further cases against members of the I.N.A. and characterises it as a measure of statesmanship.

He says: "The decision of the Government to drop all further cases against the members of the I.N.A. will be welcomed by all sections of the Indian people. It is a measure of statesmanship which will react favourably on public opinion and contribute to the improvement in Indo-British relations."

Bhonsale Meets Mahatma And Congress Leaders

SIMLA, May 4 (API): Col. J. K. Bhonsale of the Azad Hind Fouj, who arrived here to-day, called on Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and and other leaders. Col. Bhonsale left for Delhi this evening 'en route' to Sawantwadi.

COL. BHONSALE TO BE FELICITATED

The "F" Ward District Congress Committee desires to felicitate Col. Jaganathrao Bhonsale of I.N.A. on his release after his arrival in Bombay at the Kamgar Maidan, Parel, under the Presidentship of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

All Public institutions desirous of joining in the felicitation are requested to communicate their names at the office of the "F" Ward District Congress Committee, Irani Mansion, Ground Floor, Gokhale Education Society Lane, Parel, between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. on any day except Monday.

Kher Interviews Governor

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The Governor of Bombay granted an interview to Mr. B. G. Kher. Sir Alexander Erskine-Hill arrived at Government House.

The Governor-Designate of Madras and Lady Nye, Mr. A. J. Platt, Captain the Hon. J. R. Warrender and Captain J. W. Buckley left Government House.

Rice Position In S.-E. Asia

SINGAPORE, May 3 (Renter): Lord Killearn, Special Commissioner in South-East Asia, in a broadcast today said that while the Combined Food Board estimated Siam and Burma rice exports in the second quarter at 260,000 tons actual shipments were unlikely to exceed 153,000 tons. Unless shipments were quickened, the position which was already serious "will be desperate in a few weeks time."

Superb Bowling By Mankad

WORCESTER ALL OUT FOR 191 RUNS

Pataudi's Shrewd Decision To Field Bears Fruit

WORCESTERSHIRE (first innings) 191
INDIA (first innings) for 3 wickets 81

(By Learie Constantine, "Reuter's" Special Correspondent)
WORCESTERSHIRE, May 4.

The Indians opened their tour of England in a promising fashion here to-day dismissing Worcestershire for 191. At the close of play Indians had made 81 for three wickets.

Many critics wagged their heads when India's Captain, the Nawab of Pataudi, won the toss and did the unorthodox thing in sending county in to bat, but it was notable that he consulted his colleagues—almost certainly the Vice-Captain, Vijay Merchant, and Amarnath—who probably agreed with their skipper that in view of the fact that the men were tired out after all-night travelling and still out of condition it was the wisest plan.

His shrewd decision was fully justified and taking everything into consideration, the tourists can congratulate themselves on their opening.

The left-hander Vinoo Mankad, who took 4 wickets for 26 runs, bowled superbly

IN TRUE VERITY STYLE

Bowling in true Verity style round the wicket and taking only four paces, he scarcely took anything out of himself, mixed his pace skilfully and turned the ball from the leg. To show this impeachable length so early in the tour without practice, augurs well for the Indians during the remainder of the tour.

Another to impress me was Sarwate, who, although not having much luck, bowled his right-arm leg breaks and googlies with splendid confidence. He kept the batsmen playing by tossing the ball well into the air and up to the wicket. The slow green pitch was helpful to spin although the ball usually came off slowly. Experienced and better batsmen would probably have been quite confident and not have made so many rash strokes which cost several batsmen their wickets.

Banerjee has filled out considerably since his last visit and his pace could be compared with the Lancastrian Test bowler Pollard. He disguised his slower ball cunningly.

AMARNATH STOCK BOWLER

Amarnath kept a steady length and pinned the batsmen down and will probably become the stock bowler. Shinde did not seem particularly troublesome. Behind the stumps Hindlekar gave a polished performance, and this neat and safe wicket-keeper is of the obvious Test class.

The fielding of the Indians was inclined to be erratic, but that was not to be wondered at as their hands are not yet acclimatised and the players undoubtedly felt the cold wind so much that they had to field in sweaters.

The county started well with an opening stand between their Captain Singleton, who like Pataudi, is an old Oxonian, and the left-hander Howarth who spent last year with the R.A.F. in India, who put on 61 runs in an hour's play before lunch.

Brilliant fielding by Gul Mahomed got Singleton run-out for 47.

But after lunch the game turned in favour of the tourists, chiefly thanks to Mankad's fine bowling. The tea was taken with the total at 172 for 8 and shortly afterwards the innings was closed.

A crowd of some 8,000 including Mr. Devadas Gandhi, son of the Mahatma, watched the day's play on the picturesque Cathedral ground.

DETAILS OF FIRST DAY'S PLAY

The Nawab of Pataudi correctly called tails to the toss. After going to the dressing room to consult his colleagues, he sent Worcestershire in to bat.

The umpires were Smart and Davies. The ground, with the newly painted pavilion looked lovely, although the early morning sunshine had given way to clouds and a cold wind. The crowd was rolling up in large numbers before the start. There will be a counter attraction of the race meeting on the nearby Worcester Race course this afternoon.

Banerjee had the honour of bowling the first ball of the tour. Amarnath, taking four short paces, shared the attack.

Banerjee's first over was a maiden.

The pitch appeared easy paced and the batsmen appeared quite comfortable. Banerjee had three slips and a short fine leg.

Howarth on-drove Banerjee high for the boundary and Singleton followed with an on-drive along the carpet for a four off Amarnath.

A crowd of about 3,000 was present. All the Indians except the bowlers wore sweaters in the cold wind.

FIRST BOWLING CHANGE

With the total 23, Pataudi made the first change, introducing the right-arm spinner Sarwate for Banerjee. Sarwate, in his first over, unsuccessfully appealed for l.b.w. against Howarth.

Lack of practice probably accounted for some loose balls from Sarwate and Amarnath but hitherto the bowlers have received no help from the well dressed pitch which played slowly, giving the batsmen time to think about their strokes.

Pataudi did not intend to allow the batsmen to settle down and introduced the left-arm slow bowler Mankad at 45. With only 3 added, Singleton, who was shaping extremely well, pulled Mankad hard to the square-leg when 23, Mushtaq Ali failing to hold a sharp catch, the stroke sent up 50 in as many minutes.

HOWARTH QUITS

With his last ball before lunch, Mankad induced the left-hander Howarth to make a mighty swipe. He missed and the ball snicked off the bail. (61-1-27).

The opening patrnership was thus broken at 61, the players then took lunch. Singleton was batting with 31 runs to his credit.

BRILLIANT FIELDING BY GUL MAHOMED

In the first over after lunch, Singleton punished Sarwate for two fours and a three, but with the total 81, brilliant fielding by Gul Mahomed, who ran from the cover, ended Singleton's stay. He had cut Mankad and going for a second run saw the wicket smartly put down by Hindlekar from Mahomed's spilt lightning return. (81-2-47). Sarwate who pitched the ball well up, looking very promising for his first effort on English turf, shared the bowling with Mankad who was also turning the ball.

With the total at 94, a faster ball from Mankad clean bowled Vice-Captain White who made a wild hook. (94-3-10).

The crowd now reached 6,000.

In brilliant sunshine, Cooper and Gibbons put more class and polish into their batting than their predecessors. Mankad mantained a high standard, rarely giving anything away and facing him and the right-arm slow spinner Shinde the batsmen went on the defensive. Mankad and Shinde bowled four successive maidens between them.

TWO MORE QUIT

Gibbons lifted his back foot after Hindlekar had gathered a splendid delivery from Mankad. (135-4-20). Young professionals, Bird and Young made rash strokes. A googly which struck his pads as covered up accounted for Bird (138-5-0) and Young was bowled in trying to divert a leg break round the corner (139-6-1).

When Young left, Mankad's figures were 19.2 overs, 2 maidens, 23 runs 4 wickets—a splendid performance.

SCORE BOARD

WORCESTERSHIRE (1st Innings)

Howarth b. Mankad	27
Singleton run out	47
White b. Mankad	10
Cooper b. Bannerjee	35
Gibson st. Hindlekar b. Mankad	20
Bird b. Shinde	0
Young b. Mankad	1
Jenkins b. Amarnath	12
Perks b. Amarnath	19
Buller l.b.w. Sarwate	9
Jackson (not out)	1
Extras	10
Total	191

FALL OF WICKETS: 1/61, 2/81; 3/94; 4/135, 5/138; 6/139; 7/160; 8/162; 9/185; 10/191.

BOWLING ANALYSIS

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Banerjee	12	2	37	1
Amarnath	17.5	4	32	2
Sarwate	16	0	62	1
Mankad	20	8	26	4
Shinde	10	1	24	1

Shinde bowled one wide, Banerjee one noball, extra bye one, legbyes 7.

INDIA (1st Innings)

Merchant l.b.w. Perks	24
Mushtaq Ali c. Buller b. Howarth	14
Amarnath c. Bird b. Howarth	1
R. S. Modi (not out)	22
Gul Mahomed (not out)	13
Nawab of Pataudi, Vinoo Mankad, Sarwate, Hindlekar, Banerjee and Shinde to bat.	
Extras	7
Total (for three wkts.)	81

FALL OF WICKETS: 1/43; 2/43; 3/47.

Umpires: Messrs. Smart and Davies.

Bannerjee took the new ball under the new rule after 55 overs with the score at 143, instead of the former 200 total. The scorers indicated the number of overs by hoisting a coloured flag.

Cooper trying to hit Bannerjee's slower ball was bowled off his pads (162-7-35), while Amarnath's spin shattered Jenkin's stumps (160-8-12).

The last pair hit gaily after Gul Mahomed dropped Jackson off Sarwate in the deep off the first ball But a creeper from Amarnath bowled Perks and Worcestershire were all out in 200 minutes.

INDIA'S INNINGS

India had two hours batting and Merchant and Mushtaq Ali immediately settled down, Mustaqali turning Jackson's right-armed slow offbreaks to the fine leg boundary. Perks not so fast as seven years ago, bowled steadily. A crowd of 8,000 encroached the boundary all around the ground. Many racegoers came to watch the after-tea play after the conclusion of the day's racing.

The leftarm slow bowler, Howarth replaced Jackson at 11, but Merchant and Mushtaqali appeared absolutely safe, until at 34 Mustaqali lifted a ball dangerously over the deep midoff where Jackson just failed to reach the ball, Howarth was the bowler. At 43 Mushtaqali tried to pull a legbreak outside the offstump only to be caught by the wicke keeper. (43-1-14).

Merchant left trying to force the ball to midon. (43-2-24). Amarnath hitting too soon was caught from a skier at midon. (47-3-1).

Lack of practice was obviously the reason for these dismissals.

Modi began shakily, but after staying half an hour he produced fluent offside strokes. Gul Mahommed offered stubborn resistance and was keen to punish loose balls, hough like his colleagues his timing was erratic Worcestershire set a close field and gave nothing away.

Gulmahomed drove Perks gloriously through the covers, but Modi when 13, was missed at fineleg by White off Perks in the penultimate over.

Centuries By Hammond And Barnett

LONDON, May 4 (Reuter): In today's opening of the 1946 Cricket season, Oxford University, who are the next opponents of the Indian tourists, fielded all day at Oxford against Gloucestershire, where Test players Walter Hammond, scoring 132, and Barnett 110, enabled the county to get 481 for 7 when stumps were pulled.

Other closes were:

At Lords, Surrey 364 (Parker 101), M. C. C. 27 for four.

At Cambridge, Lancashire 310 (Washbrook 90, Griffiths six for 129), Cambridge University 36 for one.

Indians Field After Two Hours' Sleep!

WORCESTER, May 4 (Reuter): The Indian players returning to the pavilion at lunch time complained bitterly of the cold. Quite a number of them were chittering. All said they felt exhausted after the long coach trip from London some having only managed to snatch about two hours' sleep. They liked the wicket, but said it was going to take them some time to "get the eye in". They were also suffering from inability to have proper practice before starting the match play.

Considerable dissatisfaction was expressed among all friends of the Indian team with what was described as primitive "travel arrangements" which had been made.

It was stated that the Government authority concerned with transport had shown no consideration in the matter of letting the team travel as a whole instead of "little pieces" and the episode yesterday of missing the baggage was felt to be the climax of the team's travel worries.

DEVADAS MEETS PLAYERS

Mr. Devadas Gandhi, son of the Mahatma, had a fine reception when he met the Indian players in the dressing room at the luncheon interval. Gandhi, after completing some business appointments in London, took advantage of the offer of a friend to motor to Worcester. Arriving just before lunch, he was sitting inconspicuously among the spectators in the stands, when he was noticed by Mr. Gupta, the Indian team's manager, who took him in to see the players at the interval.

TEAM REACHES WORCESTER AT 3 a.m.

WORCESTER, May 4 (Reuter):—Tired out by travelling through the night 16 Indian cricketers and their officials reached Worcester this morning when the Cathedral clock was striking three.

The Nawab of Pataudi, the captain said as he entered the hotel where they are to stay, "I am sorry we are so late. The driver lost his way, but we are thankful to be here."

A party of Worcetser players, who had gathered to receive them all went home after waiting for the visitors till a late hour, and only pressmen and the Manager of the hotel and his wife waited up to receive them.

They were in bed 45 minutes' later, and the Nawab of Pataudi, their captain arranged they should not be wakened before 10-30 B.S.T., two hours before, their opening match with Worcestershire was due to commence.

Despite the late hour the Nawab announced his team, which he described as "very strong, because it must be, and we have so many fine players."

Before retiring the Nawab inquired who were playing for his county (Worcestershire), and he said he was sorry his old friend Cyril Walters was not among them.

WHY THEY WERE LATE

Asked why the team took seven hours over the 130-miles journey the Nawab said: "I have done the trip hundreds of times and know every inch of the way, but unfortunately I fell asleep as we approached Moreton in the Marsh, and it was there the driver took a wrong turning, so that we went 30 miles out of our way. We also lost ourselves in Worcester city. I hear you cut the street lights off at midnight and in the darkness and with no one about to guide us we were lost.

"We drove several times round the city."

Mr. P. Gupta the Manager said he changed the travelling plan yesterday four times due the late arrival of the baggage from the boat at Southampton. It eventually arrived in London at 6 p.m. B.S.T.

At Worcester to-day the sun was shining brilliantly and there was every prospect of a full days cricket.

Japs Enthused At New Constitution

WASHINGTON, May 4. (Reuter): General MacArthur, Supreme Allied Commander in Japan, said in his March occupation report that the Japanese people had shown widespread enthusiasm for the new democratic constitution.

"The Japanese are becoming more cognizant of the fundamental issues involved in their political revolution" the report added.

'Big 4' Agreement On Disposal Of Italian Navy

Compromise Between British And Soviet Proposals

PARIS, May, 4, (APA): The "Big Four" Foreign Ministers have reached an agreement on the disposal of the Italian Navy it was learned last night.

The terms of the agreement were believed to be that Italy will retain at least one battleship, four cruisers, four destroyers, 16 torpedo boats and 20 corvettes.

The figures were presented by the American delegation as a compromise between British and Soviet proposals. They were accepted by the Foreign Ministers who, however, have not yet ratified minutes of the session in which the decision was taken.

There was still a sharp division, however, on interpretation of the figures. The United States, with British and some French support, insisted that only ships in operational condition be counted in the total awarded to Italy. Russia demanded that damaged, partly constructed, and sunken but salvable ships be used to make up the award.

There was some minor argument on classifying torpedo boats and destroyers, but this would not affect the total number of ships left to Italy.

Italy now has five battleships, nine cruisers, 14 destroyers, 20 torpedo boats, 19 corvettes and about 30 submarines

EARLIER MESSAGE.

PARIS May 4. (A.P.A.): The Council of Foreign Ministers were scheduled to meet to-day at 11 hours (G.M.T.).

Among other issues on the agenda, Italy's old bilateral agreements were to be examined to see whether the former enemy nation would be permitted to maintain any of them in force.

It was explained that nearly all were economic or trade pacts.

The tripartite alliance with Germany and Japan, and the multilateral Anti-Comintern Pact are considered abolished and were not to be studied.

No agreement was in sight on the troublesome Italo-Yugoslav border issue, the disposal of the Italian colonies, or Italian reparations.

On these larger matters, it was reported, the Big Four were as far apart as at the beginning of the conference more than a week ago, with Russia reportedly a minority against the United States, Britain and France.

The ministers were still divided on proposals to establish a post-treaty inspectorate commission inside Italy to insure her compliance with treaty terms.

The Russians also opposed establishment of an Allied Commission to continue the detection and prosecution of war criminals after the Allied Control Commission leaves Rome Moscow's opposition to these proposals was viewed in American and British quarters in the light of the precedent they would set for establishing similar Commission's in Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary.

The ministers have not yet been able to take up the Balkan treaties but this was not in itself considered a bad omen since many issues at stake in the Balkans are also in evidence in Italy.

The settlement of the disputed points in the Italian Treaty could easily lead to agreement on the Balkans.

ITALO-YUGOSLAV FRONTIER

PARIS, May 4. (A.P.A.): Italian and Yugoslav Ministers facing one another in the Salon Victor Hugo Friday laid conflicting claims to the Istrian peninsula before the Foreign Ministers Council in the Luxembourg Palace.

Italian Foreign Minister Alcide de Gasperi, describing himself as spokesman for a new, peace-minded Italy, asked the Council to fix the Italo-Yugoslav boundary along the old "Wilson Line," giving the important Adriatic port of Trieste to Italy.

According to conference sources last night, Yugoslav Deputy Premier Edward Kardelj accompanied by Foreign Minister Stanoje Simic and seven other advisers, spoke for three and a half hours in support of the Yugoslav claim which would give Trieste and almost all the Istrian peninsula to Yugoslavia.

The Ministers scheduled their next session for to-day at 11 a.m. hours (G.M.T.), reportedly to discuss delimitation of the Italo-French frontier and the status of Italy's existing peace treaties

De Gasperi, in asking for the Wilson line as demarcation of the frontier between Yugoslavia and Italy, praised the Council's decision to send an investigation committee to the disputed area, but he said the commission restricted itself to sections claimed by Yugoslavia, and thus failed to get a complete idea of Italy's position.

He added that it would be impossible to avoid leaving some minorities along the frontier no matter how the same is eventually decided, and pleaded for a spirit of conciliation and tolerance among neighbouring states. The Yugoslav claim, he said, if granted contrary to American recommendations, would take some 600,000 Italians into Yugoslavia.

The Yugoslav Deputy Premier answered that anything less than satisfaction of Yugoslav claims would favour Italian aggression at a later date. He spoke at great length.

The ministers during the session examined the four boundary recommendations advanced by the United States, Britain, France and Russia. Of these, the first three were roughly similar, identical in the north, and all giving Trieste to Italy.

Of the three, the American line was the farthest east, giving Italy one-third of the Hinterland, the northern tip of the Istrian Peninsula, and the towns of Pola and Alberga.

According to American officials the British would divide the peninsular tip, and the French line was farther west The Russian line, farthest west of the four would give the important shipyards at Monfalcone to the Yugoslavs, and bring their frontier to the south of the Isonzo river, including Trieste and most of the interior

Meantime, there were reports, denied by American officials that Secretary of State James F. Byrnes planned to leave Paris on the tenth with or without an agreement.

Italy Denies Closing Of Brenner Frontier

ROME, May 4, (APA): The Italian Foreign Minister last night denied a report that Italy had closed the Brenner Frontier with Austria to prevent incidents in the Tyrol.

A spokesman said the report that incidents had already occurred between German speaking Tyrolese and Italians also were without foundation

NO HIDE-OUT FOR FRANCO IN EIRE

DUBLIN (I.P.S.): Eire Government officials have denied a story that General Franco has a hide out prepared for him in Eire. The story was broadcast recently by the Paris Radio quoting Prieto, the Spanish Republican Socialist leader in Mexico with the statement that the De Valera Government had given permission to Franco to spend his retirement quietly in Eire with his entourage. It will be recalled that a similar story was current during the last phase of the war that Hitler and the Nazi leaders had prepared for a hide-out in Eire

GERMAN COMMUNISTS

BERNE, (I.P.S.): Red Army officers are staging an all out campaign for Drachba (friendship) with Germans, says a Berlin dispatch. When delegates from Trade Unions in Russian zone held their first congress recently, Col. Sergie Tulponov pointedly welcomed them to Berlin in these words:—"The heart of the capital of Germany" The delegates cheered wildly this statement as there is anxiety in Germany that if French had their way, the Capital might be removed from Prussian Berlin The German Communist Party has continued agitation for national unity and pledged to fight separation of Ruhr and Rhineland from the rest of the fatherland.

Major-General Sir Archibald Nye, Governor-Designate of Madras, who arrived in Bombay on Friday.

Cut Means Starvation

India's Battle For Food At Washington

WASHINGTON, May 3 (Reuter): Indian Officials told the Combined Food Board in a formal memorandum that any attempt to cut May wheat shipments to India below the requested half million tons would imperil the country's rationing system by the third week of June and expose by one stroke 100,000,000 people to a sudden and catastrophic threat of total starvation by the end of that month, cables William Hardcastle. Reuter's Special Correspondent.

The memorandum which was disclosed to Reuter by an authoritative source was sent to the Board's Security and Cereals Committee by the Indian Delegate to the Committee, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. It placed India's needs in wheat and secondary grains in May at between 500,000 and 600,000 tons; half million was described as the "irreducible minimum." Dr. Rao further pointed out that a substantial portion of that allocation must come from the United States since under the present meagre tentative allocations, supplies for India hardly figure in the proposed American shipments.

Dr. Rao will pursue the argument posed in the memorandum when the Cereals Committee of the Board meets on Monday in an attempt to "harden" the tentative allocations. If no satisfaction is gained at that session, it is probable that Sir Girja Bajpai, the Indian Agent-General will take his place in "the visitors gallery" alongside the Director-General of the U. N. R. R. A. Mr. Fiorello Laguardia at the full Board meeting later in the week personally to present India's case

FRANTIC EFFORTS TO SECURE FOOD

U.N.R.R.A. Director Accuses Anglo-American Food Board

WASHINGTON, May 3 (U.P.A.): U.N.R.R.A. Director Fiorello LaGuardia today accused the Combined Anglo-American and Canadian Food Board of "trifling" with his efforts to obtain food.

"I am willing to stand any abuse but I refuse to be trifled by the Board on a matter of such importance where human lives are concerned", he said.

LaGuardia pointed out that he was promised in April 450,000 tons of wheat, although the requirement was for 700,000 tons, but he actually received only 339,000 tons

LEITH ROSS RESIGNS FROM U. N. R. R. A

LONDON May 3, (A. P. A.): U. N. R. R. A. announced to-night the resignation of Sir Frederick Leith-Ross as British Representative on the European Committtee of U. N. R. R. A. Central Council

HOOVER TO REACH TOKYO TO-DAY

TOKYO, May 3 (U.P.A.): General MacArthur's headquarters today announced Mr. Herbert Hoover would arrive on Sunday and that General Eisenhower would arrive during the middle of next week.

READY DELIVERY CONTRACT

NEW DELHI, May 3 (A.P.I.): By a notification published in the Gazette today, the Government of India have amended the definition of "ready-delivery contract" in defence of India Rule 94-C, says a Press Note. The period of delivery in the case of such contracts has been extended from seven to fifteen days.

Defence of India Rule 94-C prohibits stock exchanges from permitting or affording facilities for, 'inter alia', the making of any contract other than a ready-delivery contract. A ready-delivery contract has been defined as a contract which must be performed by the actual delivery of, or payment for the securities specified therein on a date not later than the seventh day from the date of the contract.

Madras Ban On Tricolour Lifted

MADRAS, May 3 (A.P.I.): Mr. Daniel Thomas Minister for Local Administration informed the Press today that the Government would shortly pass orders removing the ban on the hoisting of tri-colour Flags on Local Bodies and educational institutions and also on displaying photographs of national leaders in public institutions.

American Scholars To Study Indian Culture

WASHINGTON, May 3. (U.P.A.): The American Oriental Society, composed of American scholars on Asiatic affairs, to-day disclosed that it intends sending a number of American students to India in the near future to gain a thorough knowledge of Indian history and culture, thereby promoting greater knowledge of India in America.

Azerbaijan's New Ally

THEREAN, May 4, (Reuter): The Democratic "Government" of the North Persian province of Azerbaijan has concluded a treaty of friendship with the Kurdish National Government, the Tabriz Radio announced today.

FRENCH ALLEGATION AGAINST CHINESE

PARIS, May 3 (Reuter): A semi-official statement from French authorities in Saigon, French Indo-China, published today by French press agency, alleged that the Chinese are not applying the Franco-Chinese Treaty of February 28 for relief by French troops of Chinese occupation forces in northern Indo-China.

SIR ALEXANDER ERSKINE FOR BOMBAY

NEW DELHI, May 4, (API): Sir Alexander Erskine Hill left Delhi by air today for Bombay.

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Our London Letter

All Eyes On Simla

Indian Officials Study Labour Welfare Problems In Britain

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT

LONDON, (By Air Mail).

Politically speaking, eyes of all people in Britain are at present on Simla. Every one interested in Indian problem—and they are a vast number of British public—scans every paper to read and understand what is happening at Simla.

The comings and goings of every individual to the headquarters of the British Cabinet Mission are duly reported and duly taken note of by the public. But so far no one is prepared to draw final conclusions about the fate of the Mission or the people of India, which, at this distance, appears to be in the balance. One factor, all the same, emerges clearly as days pass by.

It had been the practice in the days of Churchill regime to blame the Indian Congress Party and its leaders for all the ills of the Indian nation. To-day, names of Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Azad are uttered more in reverence and respect than in a spirit of derision. To-day the Congress Party is no more described as a body of hooligans but the representative voice of the Indian Nation. In this context Mahomed Ali Jinnah and the Muslim League are looked upon as the main and only hurdle that the Mission has to overcome.

Gone are the days when there used to be an academic discussion whether India is fit for self-Government or even Dominion Status. In the clubs and lobbies of the two Houses of Parliament basis of discussion and debate now are the acceptance of the principle that India is fit for self-Government and complete independence. An Englishman now turns round in righteousness or some time in indignation and asks the Indian "why don't you make up your differences? Independence is just waiting round the corner if only the people of India would get united."

South African Visitors

In the meanwhile, we are not a free nation and why we should be a free sovereign nation is sharply brought home to the minds of the Englishman by the presence in London of two stalwart Indians from South Africa. Since they arrived here about a fortnight ago, Mr. Ashwin Choudree, (whose grandmother aged 98 lives in Gorakhpur, United Provinces) and Mr. P. R. Pather, have done a great work in London in telling the British public about General Smut's proposed Ghetto for the 250,000 Indians in his country. Both these Indians from South Africa have devoted their whole time and attention to arouse British conscience to the repressive and racial law which Smuts is trying to put on the South African Statute Book.

Neither of them has so far been to the London theatre, where we have first-class plays in running. Nor have they found time to peep in any cinema house. "We want to get back to South Africa as soon as poosible and we are therefore most concerned and anxious to put our case before the British public—from the Ministers down to the ordinary working class", said Mr. Ashwin Choudree, when I called on him last night. He said that apart from contacting the French Ministers during his four-day visit to Paris he will devote his time to writing a pamphlet putting concisely the case of the Indians and other non-European residents of South Africa

Moral Sympathy

Discussing what has so far been achieved in London, Mr. Choudree said to me "since our arrival here I have found that the British people and their representative organisations in many spheres of life feel deeply concerned about the racial discrimination in South Africa against Indians. Both in the leftist, Conservative and Liberal circles there is an overwhelming moral support and sympathy for the unjust treatment meted out to Indians in South Africa. The opinion has generally been expressed that such a state of affairs cannot go unnoticed nor unchallenged indefinitely by the world opinion. Much sooner than later South Africa will find herself the object of concern as far as the United Nations are concerned. All eyes will be focussed upon her more particularly because mankind cannot allow South Africa to sow seeds of racial conflict which was one of the causes that led to the recent greatest catastrophe from which the world has just emerged."

Mr. Choudree explained that South Africa is multiracial country and it will in the very nature of things have to see that fair play, equality of opportunity and justice is meted out to all sections of her people. "The exploitation by the dominant European population of the Indians and the other sections of her non-European peoples cannot escape the deep concern and anxiety of other nations, who have with such bitter sacrifices saves some of the democratic principles out of this war", said Mr. Choudree. He added "Field Marshal Smuts cannot stand at the rostum of the world and blazon out noble ideals of life as he has done at San Francisco and elsewhere and not apply these very principles in his own country".

Indian Officials In London

Among the recent arrivals from India are a batch of Indian officers of the Central and Provincial Governments. They came here about six weeks ago, in order to study in this country for about six months post-war Labour problems in Britain as well as how in the reconversion of industries from war to peace the Ministry of Labour is linked up with various employers and employees' organisations in their main task of promoting the well-being of the work people.

The British Indian Government comes into touch with workmen in various capacities through these officers who represent the Government from all the angles. Mr. A. S. Asaikar is a conciliation officer of the Central Indian Government. He is here to study the Industrial Relations peculiar to this country. Mr. A. Hossain, as a Chief Welfare Officer for the Coal Mines, is interested in the disbursement of Miners' Welfare Fund in Britain. Mr. Kanti Choudhuri, who is a Personnel Officer of Ordnance Factories in India, is to study the Factory Inspection and general welfare of the work people in Britain. There are also two women officers in the group. One of them is a doctor. The States have also sent two of their officers. They come from Baroda and Gwalior. Indian Provinces are well represented too. There are officers from Assam, Madras, Bombay. They will shortly be dispersed to various industrial regions of Britain where they are expected to come into contact with various Trade Union representatives and Factory Executives.

Unsatisfactory Arrangements

The Ministry of Labour and National Service, I am told, has been rendering all possible assistance in making their tour a successful one. But the arrangement made by the High Commissioner for India for their stay in London is, according to all reports, not quite satisfactory. When they arrived in London they were told that they will be charged £6-14-0 per week for their bed and breakfast. So two of these Indians entered a strong protest. As a result of this protest they are now charged about £4-10-0 per week for partial board. In spite of this high cost they have been lodged in a very poorly furnished house in an expensive locality—26, Harrington Gardens, London, S.W.7. I have inspected these premises. One of them, who may be described as rather an outside individual, said to me that he has never had a good sleep for the past seven weeks and he is looking forward to sleep well when he leaves London to visit one of the Industrial Regions where the arrangements for their stay are being made by the Ministry of Labour.

It is learnt that the High Commissioner's office informed these officers while they were on their way to London that excellent arrangements had been made regarding their food and stay. But these officers have complained to me that both these arrangements are far from satisfactory. They have also experienced difficulty and undue delay in obtaining their clothing coupons.

"Dirty Calcutta"

These officers are made to carry and fetch their weekly laundry. There has been no arrangement for any cleaner to visit them and look after their laundry.

But despite these hardships and worries this batch of Indian officers have been doing a lot of work. They have already visited the Industrial Museum, the Roehampton Limb Fitting Centre and the Egham Institute for the training of disabled persons. Most of them seemed to have come to the conclusion that such an all-round programme towards promoting the well-being of work people is only possible when both the parties to any industrial pact, namely, the employers and the employees, are highly organised and are supported and guided by a government that enjoys the confidence of both the parties.

Last week these officers visited the docks and wharfs of London in the East End. One incident tickled most of them. They saw on the wharfs big loads marked in equally big letters "DIRTY CALCUTTA." They all felt that these big loads were going to "DIRTY CALCUTTA." When they asked the Ministry of Labour Official why Calcutta was described as Dirty, the reply was "Oh, no, Sir, don't misunderstand these markings. The word dirty applies not to Calcutta in this case but to the stuff that is destined for Calcutta. Another shipment may be marked "Dirty Argentine or Dirty Cairo. The workmen know from the marking what the stuff these big boxes contain."

PRINCIPAL SATISH KALELKAR

Prof. Satish D. Kalelkar, M.A. (Oxon.) elder son of Acharya Kara Kalelkar and Professor of Economics and Statistics in the Benares Hindu University, has been appointed Principal of the Govindram Seksaria College of Economics and Commerce at Nagpur. Principal Kalelkar will take over charge immediately after the summer vacation.

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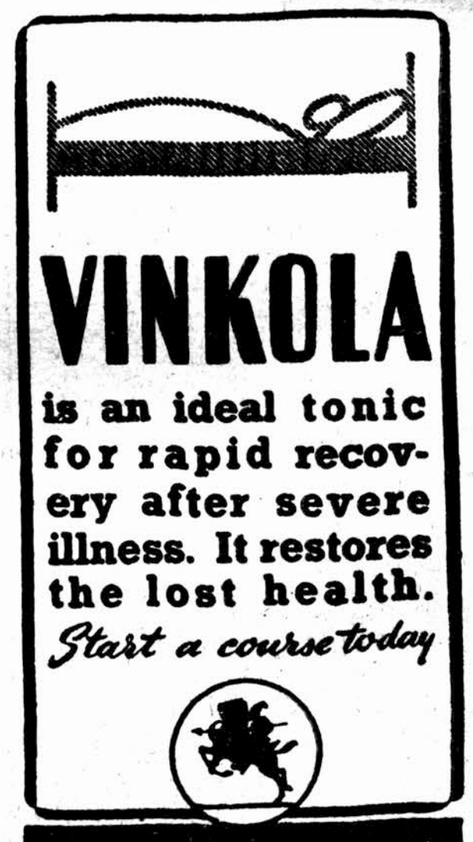

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Legislature, No Place For Married Woman!

Says

Clare Boothe Luce

(An Interview With Steffan Andrews)

Congresswoman Clare Boothe Luce is retiring from Congress convinced that it's no place for a married woman if it means being separated from her family.

In an exclusive interview, at which she also forecast that returning war veterans will elect the country's next President, the pretty, blonde Connecticut Republican, who recently announced her conversion to the Catholic faith, told women:

"Don"t run for Congress unless you are sure that you can have your family with you.

"If you already are married and run for national office, you must be prepared to pay the price—namely, being separated from your family.

"And the separation", she added, "is always a hazard. Of course, if you are a spinster or a widow, Congress is ideal."

Indicating that this was one of the underlying reasons why she herself decided to retire from politics, Mrs. Luce admitted with a laugh and a toss of the head that these words and her own action would have no effect on other women because "more and more women will go into national politics' from the very nature of things.

"You can't keep down the women" she added.

She said she saw even less effect of her retirement on the Connecticut political situation where, she predicted, any reasonably good republican can be absolutely certain of being elected to the seat she is now vacating in the State's Fourth Congressional district.

Telling of her regret in leaving Congress because of the many history-making national developments in the offing, she forecast for veterans a growing power in domestic and foreign affairs unexcelled by any other group or lobby in the country.

"I can see what this enormous power is going to be ten years from now," she said. "About 1948 the veterans' group will be the decisive group in the campaign. What they want, and what they want the Government to do about foreign and economic affairs, will be done."

She said it was of the "utmost importance" that Congress plan a veterans' benefits and bonus programme now and set a limit to it now, so that veterans won't be forced to demand it later as in the last war in "a spirit of bitterness."

"Veterans," said the Connecticut Congresswoman, "will be the most powerful and potentially the most dangerous lobby in the country. Congress should give a veteran what he deserves now, rather than wait until we get into a depression."

This veterans' development is one of the three things she will watch when she retires from Congress. The other two are labour-management relations and the American Air Force.

"If this country disarms and lets its air force collapse and disintegrate, there will be another war, "UNO or no UNO. So long as we maintain a formidable air force, we can have any of our demands met around the world", Mrs. Luce said.

But the two things she will devote her whole speaking and writing time to, she said, are economic and political rights for the Negro and the feeding of young, starving Europeans.

"Either we take care of this starving generation in Europe and develop them into social democrats or face an impoverished horde which will become cannon fodderin the next war to invade America," she warned.

Mrs. Luce declined to tell why she had turned Catholic. She said when she gets ready to give the frank reason for her conversion, she will sit down and write the story herself.

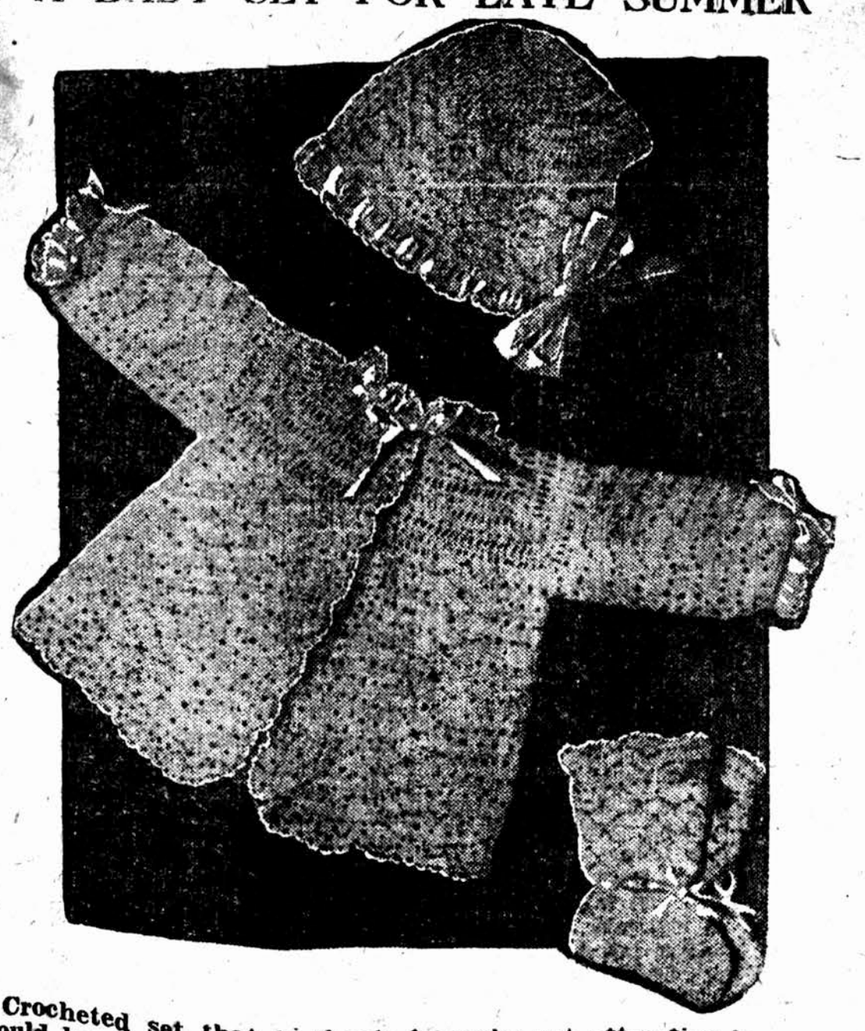
(NANA).

FOR HER APPROVAL?

Mr. Hugh Dalton, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, shows the famous Budget Box, to his wife, as he leaves No. 11 Downing Street, to present his first Budget to Parliament.

Needlework Tips

A BABY SET FOR LATE SUMMER



A Crocheted set that is simple to make yet attractive in ... should be started for baby. With fine, soft yarn and this lovely stitch you will have a flattering and useful outfit for either boy or girl. Every baby should have several of these practical sets

New "Soapless Soap" Is Boon To Housewife

One of the most practical and widely usable items to come out of the war is a new "soapless soap" which will greatly help housewives and other cleaners in their daily chores. A number of U.S. chemical firms are putting the new product on the market. Basically, it is a synthetic organic chemical that looks like soap and acts like soap but does a far more thorough and efficient job.

A regular soap cleans because of its ability to form an emulsion with dirt and grease. It picks up small particles and holds them in suspension so that they can be rinsed away. But unluckily, soap also combines with the lime or magnesium found in hard water to form an insoluble salt or curd which is left as a residue, or, popularly speaking, as the familiar dark ring on bath tub and basin. "Soapless soap", on the other hand, combines with such minerals to form a soluble solution and thus leaves no ring

The soapless cleaner comes as powder, in flakes, in liquid form, or incorporated into a bar of ordinary soap to improve its cleansing action. It works in water, salt water and acid solutions, is more powerful than soap, but at the same time so gentle that it was used to remove fuel oil from sailors torpedoed at sea, without harm to skin or wounds. In addition, soapless soap wets fabrics more throughly and spreads easily over non-porous surfaces, leaving a film which dries quickly For dish washing no towels will be needed, and many a housewife's drudgery in cleaning rugs, clothing, furniture and such will be eased by the new soap

Let us talk it over —

Many a time I wonder and at times, I do feel convinced that this world isn't a place for the god-fearing man. (Much less is it for the man-fearing woman!!)

One fine moonlit night a friend took into his head to treat his pals to a nice junket. Being a grass-widower—and how could he help it for no flats is available in Bombay either for love or money—he was at home to the company in one of the hotels in the city.

As things turned out to be, I had the rather not unmixed honour of being the only 'lady' in the party and etiquette demanded that I should order the evening's menu. Now, my acquaintance with non-vegetarian viands being very select-fried fish, chicken roast and scrambled eggs—but I forget, aren't eggs considered to be very much vegetarian?—I was completey at sea when the waiter presented me a greese-soiled tariff card bearing a conglomeration of outlandish names. I could hardly make out what stuff came under soup, dessert pudding and the main dish proper!

* * *

That was my first physical encounter with austerity meals, though I had of course read and heard quite a good deal about it. Wasn't a hullaballoo raised against the three course meal regulation which made it all the more easier for the hotelwallas to please the helpless customers? But being a law-abiding person by nature, I struggled hard to and at last chose some three courses for my dinner. The men, however, differed and decided to think it over their piping hot soup. And in the end, they proved to be wiser, for to my great amazement, the waiter announced that there was no regular dinner service as such (a loophole to escape the austerity law) and we could have as many courses as we liked!' My friends were merrily helping themselves while the waiter seemed to be out to shame even the most hospitable hostess at a sumptuously laden table ..... What was the reward I got for sticking to the letter of the law? Half-starved stomach on the watery soup, fish and black coffee with skim-milk!

* * *

Now there, I am not opposed to austerity, whether glamourised or severely simple. But it gets my goat to find it scandalised in the city's numerous public eating-houses. Perhaps you may well ask me why I didn't take the cudgels on behalf of austerity meals? But then, I ask you, if that had been of any use at all? After all, it wasn't difficult to sense how things were working during the Advisers' Raj.

But now the scene has been transformed and let's hope the culprits will be brought to book by the people's ministers. By the way how about having a squad of non-official detectives to spot out 'austerity offenders.' "Official detectives, there are", as Mr. Booth, the Director of Civil Supplies (Districts) told me the other day. When I asked him if there were any women detectives too, he said "no" and I hastened to add "it were time to have some, women being more conscientious." Cannot Bombay start from this end while the U. P. and Madras Governments have woman Ministers? Now U. P. has also a woman Food Adviser.

—Leela

THE manager of Super-Colossal Pictures entered the office.

"Get out!" he howled at a young man sitting there. "While I'm boss I'll not tolerate any loafing around."

"I beg your pardon," said the young man, "but I don't work here, I "just came in looking for a position."

"Then, you're engaged." growled the manager.

"Oh. thank you," beamed the man

The manager pointed to the door again.

"And now get out!" he roared. "Yoy're fired!"

The young man picked up his hat and turned to the manager.

"Do you mind," he inquired, "if I ask one question?"

"Well, what is it?"

"Tell me, what kind of job did I hold before I was fired?"

PAKISTAN IMPRACTICABLE

Much is heard and written about the ideology of Pakistan. But nobody has any clear idea of its practicability. Even the zealous sponsors of the scheme have failed to explain this aspect. The special Pakistan issue of the "Nai Zindagee" sets out to present the picture of Pakistan in its true perspective.

The book comprises two parts. Part one is at once expository and critical. It is devoted to the highly important questions of partition, finance, industry, defence and natural resources on whose soundness a sovereign state pays its way. With the help of statistical evidence the author discusses with disarming directness the practical aspects of the issue of Pakistan and provides a natural setting for the analyses that follow in the second part of the book by different writers whose political insight based on matured experience is undisputed.

The data supplied with regard to different problems is not new. The fact that Sind and the North-West Frontier are deficit provinces and the Punjab with its present resources is unable to meet that obligation or that the mineral wealth of the country lies overwhelmingly in Hindustan is not hidden from anybody. But the value of the data lies in presenting a cohesive and coherent account of the innumerable disabilities in the way of Pakistan.

The second part of the book is more or less an elaboration of the factual evidence provided in the first part. The articles are contributed by those who have seen the storm and stress of India's slow march to freedom. Their abstract views based on experience are as valuable as of those based on detailed evidence.

JUST OUT

SOME OUT-STANDING BOOKS

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THE INELEGANT ETHIOPIAN

(1) BR. POLICY IN ERITREA AND NORTHERN ETHIOPIA.
(2) BR. POLICY IN E. ETHIOPIA, OGADEN AND THE RESERVED AREA.
By SYLVIA PANKHURST. Price 1 sh. each.

Ethiopia, the only independent Kingdom in the whole of Africa, is hemmed all-around by British possessions. It has no access to the sea. But all the same it is a strategic hub of the Nile waters and has rich mineral and oil (?) resources for the taste of which the mouth of the European countries are always watering.

The aggression of Fascist Italy condoned by the then torch bearers of European civilization is now past history. The sordid Hoare-Laval pact is also a thing of the past. But all the same the liberated Ethiopia under the reigning 'Lion of Judah' is having a hard time trying to maintain its independence and integrity and resist the insidious attempts being made by British Agents to undermine its prestige and authority.

A sizable chunck of S. E. Ethiopia is still under British Military occupation. In the north the Province of Tigray annexed by the Italians to Eritrea was a prize which the British negotiators tried hard to retain but without success. The perfidy of these moves would be more apparent if it is borne in mind that a weapon of the propaganda warfare used to incite the Eritreans against Italians was the promise of Union with Ethiopia to which it is geographically as well as culturally united. But once the war was over what happened. The cross headings of one chapter of Miss. Pankhurst's pamphlet gives glimpse of this nauseating tale. Italians murder Eritreans—No more than three persons to assemble; Ethiopean flags and badges prohibited. Treachery of Italian officials—Eritrean Council suspended, etc., etc., British might and British cunning is having a free run of the land and uses its naked power against a weak and disorganised central Ethiopian Government which too for that matter is managed mostly by British Advisers.

But what is the remedy. The one way is to rouse the public opinion of the electorate of England against the injustices and atrocities perpetrated in their name. Any appeal to UNO is out of question. The UNO is sensitive to Persian, Balkan and at the most of the Greek problem but it will be too much to expect from it justice for a black people.

In a sense the Labour Government which came to power last August is not to blame, for the iron frame of permanent officials nurtured on Tory traditions continues as before. More than this to the South of Abyssinia lies the two provinces of Kenya and Uganda which are citadels of reaction of British Aristocracy who have taken refuge there from the barrenness of a socialistic England. Their influence is a major factor on the policy in Ethiopia, though Miss Pankhurst fails to mention it.

The pamphlets are well got up and printed and Miss Pankhurst is to be complimented for bringing out these much needed documentaries. The telling facts and figures speak for themselves.

N. M. Rajaram.

Birbal In Tamil

"BIRBAL": In Telugu, published by Mohan V. Raj, Indian Home Publications Ltd., Lakshmi Building, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road, Bombay: Price Rs. 2/- pp. 164.

This is the first attempt in presenting Birbal, Andhra-born jesting minister companion of Akbar the Great to the Telugu Reading Public. Birbal is a household name n Northern India inseparable from that of Akbar, but in South India he is comparatively little known.

The book incorporates a hundred stories charged with wit and humour and it would be impossible to lay it aside before finishing it. Written in a simple style, neatly printed and got up, it provides a sumptuous fare of entertainment.

"INDIA'S PROBLEM OF INDEPENDENCE" in Telugu published by the Cultural Book Club Perambur, Madras, Price 0-8-0.

This is a free translation of "India, our Ally" by Mr. D. N. Pritt, Labour M.P. who pleads for the settlement of the Indian Problem on the basis of immediate transfer of power. A. R.

Income-Tax Ready Reckoner

COMPLETE INCOME-TAX READY RECKONER, 1946, by R. C. Doodhmal, G.D.A., R.A., F.I.S.A., A.I.C.W.A., Incorporated Secretary, Registered Accountant. The Investment Corporation of India, Limited, Ewart House, Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay. Price Rs. 3/-.

This is the revised edition brought upto-date which gives all tables for ready-reckoning for the various types of tax-payers such as individuals, companies etc. on the basis of taxes levied by this year's Finance Act, with the result that any person who desires to know at first hand and immediately the burden of taxation will be able to do so immediately. The incidence of taxation has increased nearly 100 per cent more than the pre-war basis with the result that Mr. Doodhmal has satisfied the need for an intelligent well arranged reckoner. Looking to the present high prices of paper and printing and the labour involved the price is quite reasonable. The book should prove of real use to all those who have to deal with income-tax.

HAMARA HINDOSTAN PUBLICATIONS

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RAJA BAHADUR WADI, BOMBAY 1

Problem Of Transport

TRANSPORT, by F. P. ANTIA, Oxford Pamphlets on Indian Affairs Series, As. 6.

Railways, Roads, Water and Air are the means of transport. The pamphlet briefly traces the development of and gives a factual statement of the present position in India regarding each method of transport and urges an early and discriminating development and better coordination of the entire system. The author points out the present anomalies and defects in transport administration and urges removal of cutthroat competition between the various transport systems in India. Within a small compass, the author has collected a mass of interesting information and has made numerous constructive suggestions calling for attention from the **public and** the Government.

HOW TO DEVELOP CHARACTER AND CAPABILITIES., by MAJOR A. C. CAMPBELL-ROGERS, R. E. (pp. 127, Rs. 3-12) (D. B. Taraporevala Sons and Co., Bombay),

If there is one thing to which people are averse, it is to admit, even to themselves, the deficiencies in their character. Is it then likely that they will seek instruction through books, for removal of defects in their character? Not very If, however, one dips into this book, one will find oneself deeply interested and rewarded. The book is full of wise guidance in all the affairs of life, interspersed with illustrations drawn from daily life. There is not a dull page. N. H. P.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

Who does not like that little story which has just been told of some foreign travellers on an Indian railway? One of them was throwing an old paper out of the train when another checked him by saying, "An, don't spoil India!"

DON'T SPOIL INDIA

We would say it to ourselves and to all, to every boy and girl who ever littered a street, to every picnic party that ever spoiled a field, to every road-hog that ever drove a motor in a Bombay lane—or as a matter of that, in any city's lane,—to every business man who ever put up an ugly advertisement in our country-side, to every builder who ever built a hideous house, to everyone, in schools or on papers, in halls or assemblies, who ever spoiled the name or stained the fame of India. Let us keep her pure. Let us make her great.

* * *

PAIN.

A philosopher has been writing that he is uneasy because modern man is so keenly aware of pain. But is it not a good thing to be aware of pain, especially of the pain of others?

It is not want of heart but want of thought that is the great evil of this world. It is not unkindness but lack of imagination that prevents the fortunate from being able to realise what the unfortunate have to suffer.

If the men who make wars had a spark of imagination, and could feel the misery endured by the men who have to fight them, there would be no war. If the rich could really feel what it means to be poor, hungry, homeless and hopeless, they would not be able to rest till all these evils had passed away.

So never mind the philosopher; let us try to feel the pain of others as much as we can, and to cure it as if it were our own.

* * *

HER REWARD.

Dear Dada,—once upon a time there was a little girl named Savita, and she went out in the fields for a walk. In the field she saw a dog run after a rabbit, and the dog nearly hurt its leg in the rabbit hole.

A moment later, a man came along, and saw the little girl save his dog from hurting its leg, and he was so pleased that he gave her a nice shiny eight-anna coin. Savita was delighted and on her way home she bought some sweets with the money.—Yours, Malti.

* * *

SMALL MERCIES.

Among the minor joys of life
Which come at eve or dawn,

Shri Ramlal V. Shah, General Secretary, B. P. Balkan-Ji-Bari

And come to monarch, saint, or tramp,
I count an unchecked yawn.
Sweet it is to let the lips stretch wide in gross excess,
And utter nothing but a howl
Of utter weariness.

* * *

"CHILDREN'S FORTNIGHT"

All Local Branches of the Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari celebrated the "Children's Fortnight" by arranging different programmes from April 19 to 28, and even to-day the Lal Baugh Balkan-ji-Bari is having its programme at the Hind Mata Cinema, Parel. I hope to give a complete report in the next issue.

Everybody can be enrolled in the great Brotherhood of Balkan-ji-Bari. Please send for its full particulars from Dada—"Gulistan," Khar-Bombay 21, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing nine pies stamps for postage

All Good Wishes from
your loving,
Dada

"Gulistan"
Khar - Bombay 21

ART NOTES & COMMENTS

BY D. G. VYAS

Dance-drama in England and India—Technique deviates fro..1 classical standards—Role of symbolic abhinayas—Kathak is classical technique—Dance is he2d to foot art—Politics eclipses arts and culture—Scope of national theatre—Aptitude test and art—Roy Chowdhury—the Painter and sculptor.

"Shakuntalam" seems to be a great favourite with the Western world. It was produced as a drama in English in Montreal on 3-7-1939 and then as an Opera in Rome. Again a few days ago it appeared as a ballet in London. The Fascination of the West for Kalidas's masterpiece should be a matter of pride to India, but pride should not foster complacency. Westerners' capacity of understanding and interpreting the supreme art of the great dramatist should be a matter of deep concern to India.

Shakuntala In London

In his review of the drama "Shakuntala" the drama and music critic of the "Montreal Gazette" had rightly remarked that much is likely to be lost in translating the original Sanskrit into English and then he had pointed out that the general style of playing was traditionally Shakespearean rather than Hindu (Indian). The technique of interpreting such masterpieces in the idioms of the Indian dance-art is much more difficult and is likely to become a travesty in the hands of inexperienced artistes be they Indian or European. Mr. Ernest Berk the choreo-author and his collaborators in the ballet presented at the Embassy Theatre in London are not known to have sought advice or co-operation from experts and accredited exponents in India.

The Shakuntala ballet was a manifestation of the pernicious disease known as "art for charity's sake". It was presented in aid of the Skippo fund for the project of the Ashok-Akbar Mobile Health Canteens which are intended to take health education in remote Indian villages—to ensure to them the conditions of health which were prevalent during the regimes of the two great emperors. Between Ashok and Akbar flourished Kalidas to whom the charitable motivation of art was unknown.

It is to be regretted that the names of Ashok and Akbar should be associated with the degradation of art to the level of a handmaid of charity. The two Emperors symbolise the two golden ages of Indian arts and letters. Since the organisers of the Skippo fund are interested in the health of rural India and not in Indian arts, they ought to have left the latter alone and collected money by direct approach to the people. Were the choreographer and his collaborators, in their turn, eager to pay their homage to Ashok and Akbar by upholding the high standards of Indian dance and music? The evidence furnished by the available information goes against them.

What Is New Style?

In an article on the ballet which has appeared in the March issue of "Our Time" (London) the author points out that since neither Kathakali nor Kathak is suitable for performance in a theatre in its pure state several distinguished Indian choreographers have created a new style including clements from several Indian styles. And Mr. Berk, according to him, also attempted a similar kind of synthesis in his Shakuntala ballet. It will not be surprising if the synthesis is named after him and trumpeted as his contribution to the Indian dance.

Though boomed and blatantly advertised for some time the socalled new style has bitherto remained an unexplained discovery. Some of its pioneers and adherents have charmed their admirers by their polished methods of propaganda, but they have never explained, in detail, the process of evolution, basis and characteristic of the new style, and its connection with the traditional technique. Will any of them come forward and prove the authenticity of the new style and its claim to the term "classical?" Any innovation, to be classical, should be genuine development of the traditional technique and not departure from it.

Essential Of Ensemble

The technique of some of the overnight composed dance-dramas which are presented on the Indian stage is suggestive of a departure from the standards and principles of the high dance-art and cannot be acknowledged as the technique of the classical Indian ballets. Nritya, which should be the sole medium of interpretation of a dramatic story, has, as the essential elements of its ensemble, the song, instrumental music, pure dance and symbolic gestures and expressions which are inter-related and interdependent; but Nritya is losing its integrity in the process of its modernisation.

Interpretation, which is the aim of the dance-drama, is not infrequently frustrated by the faulty technique. Broad movements improvised or based upon or suggestive of some classical patterns, limitations of hand-gestures, lack of emotional expressions, the chorus of songs rendered like a running commentary and the pagentry of costumes and settings are the components of the average dance-drama, which has been a stage-fashion of recent origin. They fail to achieve the aim of interpretation and make the ensemble of the classical ballet. Such a composition, if critically analysed, presents a mixture of drama without speech and dance without its correct technique including the symbolic abhinaya.

Head To Foot Dance

The successful production of a dance-drama implies full exploitation of all the classical styles and not reliance upon one or two of them irrespective of the latter's interpretational capability and adaptability to the requirements of the story. Personal preference and prejudices which are evident in the frequent exclusion of kathak and overestimation of the capability of Manipuri should not be allowed to determine the technique of the dance-drama. Kathak, against which prejudicial criticism is levelled in uninformed or interested quarters, is a highly developed technique and is hundred per cent classical. Its omission greatly curtails the scope of choreography of the classical dance-drama.

To be fully classical the dance-drama should interpret the various sequences and "bhavas" in the terms of the symbolic abhinayas and should not rely for its appeal exclusively on a few patterned movements of feet and hands. The Indian dancer should dance with the head and not merely with the feet. Kathak has a complex system of foot-work which is fully balanced by its interpretational scope. It is a head-to-foot dance-technique and not merely a foot-dance. The tendency to pick it up as virtuoso dance in a ballet should be deprecated as much as its exclusion from the art of choreography.

Mr. Berk is said to have based the choreography of his Shakuntala ballet mainly on kathak with important elements of kathakali. In the role of "Dushyanta" he had to his credit a curious item known as the King's 'mad dance' in which he is said to have whirled like a Dervish bouncing from foot to foot. Perhaps madness was interpreted in the terms of or was introduced for the sake of foot-movements. It will be interesting to know the authenticity of the mad-dance and the author's conception of the type of madness. Poor Kalidas is not alive to-day to learn the lessons from the stage and screen to redelineate his characters and to rectify the mistakes now discovered' in his dramas. The requirements of the production on the modern stage should not be an excuse for the repudiation of the classical technique and for the violation of the integrity of classics and historical episodes.

Under Spell Of Politics

The reference, made by Dr. Amarnath Jha, Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University in his presidential address at the session of the All-India Cultural Conference which was held at Calcutta on April 18, to the activities of the British Cabinet Mission, is not unlikely to have fallen on the deaf years of those for whom it was intended. Rightly said Dr. Jha that persons interested in cultural subjects should also have a share in determining the destinies of the country, but the Mission, as pointed out by him, is concerned only with the different political groups.

The fundamental unity of the different sects and communities which was dealt with by Sir Abdul Halim Ghaznavi, Chairman of the Reception Committee, was achieved, to no small extent, by art and music, and is still subsists under the surface of political and communal divergences. The differences are accentuated today because the foundation, on which the structure of the cultural unity of India was built, have not been strengthened by the state and leaders Art was the most stable among such foundations, but politics has eclipsed art and culture and the Cabinet Mission also is under its spell. The aim of the present leadership seems to be political freedom without the artistic and cultural regeneration of the country.

Children's Theatre

Britain has now realised the importance of children's theatre. The movement was inaugurated with dramatisation of "Great Expectations" of Charles Dickens. The play was shown thrice daily for six weeks at Toyenbee Hall in the East End, London, and the Company is now taking it round other towns in Britain. The movement will derive additional strength by children's theatre which the old Vic intends to organise in near future. Every civilised country ought to have special theatres for plays and films intended for children. India should also move with the times.

The Children's theatre should be an integral part of education and not a place of entertainment under private management. Being implicit in the concept of the national theatre, it should not be neglected by the country whose ambition is to establish the latter. The theatre to be national should minister to the requirements of the adults as well as children. The only protection against the danger of exposing children to the influences of plays and films not intended for them is the children's theatre.

Educational Reform

The London County Council is reported to have moved in the direction of the application of aptitude tests to children. The tendency of such tests is to emphasise measurement of intelligence and abilities and to neglect assessment of gifts which is much more difficult than the former. The aptitude should be the basis of selection of the type of specialised education in every individual case. Children with the artistic aptitude, if noticed in time, will be saved from the drudgery of the types of education which are uncongenial to them. If diverted to the proper channels a few of them will turn out great artists.

The official system of education in this country has failed to foster aesthetic appreciation in students and to single out the few among them designed for art. The reforms suggested by various authorities are indicated by the system of the basic education, Sargent scheme and proposals of the priority sub-committee of the National Planning Committee The new system, which will emerge from them, should accept the aptitude test as the rational procedure of the assignment of students to the various branches of education including art. It should impart training in art—appreciation to India and should also give great artists to her.

Painter And Sculptor

Published in these columns is the photograph of the bust of Diwan Bahadur Karunakara Menon, Regional Commissioner of Food, Madras. It is executed by and is one of the recent works of Mr. Devi Prasad Roy Chowdhury who is Principal of the Government School of Arts and Crafts, Madras, and who is one of the front-rank artists of India being one of the few among them who are both painters and sculptors.

As a painter and sculptor Mr. Chowdhury has developed a style which is forceful and expressive and which has imparted a distinct character to his art especially portraiture and modelling. The bust is one of the latest examples of his style. In his book "Chowdhury And His Art" Mr. P R. Ramachandra Rao gives detailed information about the artists' work, achievements and contribution to art and a collection of plates of the latter's select works.

Though associated in his early years with the revivalistic school of Bengal Mr. Roy Chowdhury seems to have gone far beyond its orthodox traditions. He is well grounded in the technique of the western art and has no bias against it. The broad outlook developed by him is reflected in his art and is one of the determinants of its progress.

Bust of Diwan Bahadur Karunakara Menon by Deviprosad Roy Chowdhury

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

"Man has recently scored a signal triumph over the animals. Once horses were used to draw the carriages. Then came the rickshaws. For years there was a keen commercial competition between Man and Horse. Then Man ousted the Horse. Today the horse-drawn carriages are disappearing one by one. One sees rickshaws everywhere.... ..
"A man is better than a horse. He doesn't kick about....."
—"AADMI AUR JAANWAR"
(Man and Animal),
a story in Hindustani
by Radha Krishan.

*

It was dismissed in a couple of lines shoved into some obscure corners on the back pages of newspapers. And yet it is news that is fundamentally more interesting, more important, more dynamic, more historic and truly epoch-making than the death of Hitler, the Atom Bomb raid on Hiroshima, the meetings of the U. N. O., the Cabinet Mission in New Delhi!

THE RICKSHAW IS TO BE ABOLISHED IN CHINA!

To my mind, this news is as important in the history of the struggle for human freedom as the Fall of Bastille, the Abraham Lincoln declaration of the emancipation of slaves, the abolition of serfdom in Europe, the women winning the right to vote, the advent of universal suffrage.

For the institution of the rickshaw, in China and in India, has been symbolic of the utter degradation of human personality under a feudal-colonial system. In no country that is truly free from foreign and indigenous exploitation!—would such a travesty of labour be permitted

*

Man dragging man, man turned into a beast of burden, man reduced to the level of a slave! In Simla and in Mussoorie, in Nainital and Murree, in Calcutta and Colombo, in Singapore and Shanghai I have seen the rickshaw in action—this infernal machine for the exploitation and degradation of man, this modern juggernaut driven by men to crush their hoves, their muscles, their lungs, their very soul!

Fat bureaucrats in dinner jackets and their wives in jewels and furs being driven in their rickshaws through blinding rain up the steep incline of the Viceregal Lodge in Simla for a Ball! Bulky taluqdars and their bulkier Begums installed in pairs in double-seater rickshaws—and panting, coughing puny little coolies on the almost perpendicular slopes of Mussoorie! A fat white planter being dragged by exhausted two-legged beasts on the roads of Colombo! An American soldier and his girl going for midnight revels on the Lakes in Calcutta—driven by a dark, thin Indian with his stomach caved in and ribs sticking out! Rich, pot-bellied Chinese merchants being pushed up to their palaces on the hills round Singapore! International traffickers in narcotics and female flesh, gangsters and brothel-keepers in Shanghai kicking the stunted Chinese rickshaw boys when they fail to run fast enough to reach the notorious night clubs in time!!

The rickshaw has gone wherever the shadow of Empire has fallen, wherever a degenerate, decaying feudal society has been checked in its inevitable doom by the arrival of foreign imperialism. Its invention may not be the blackest among the black deeds of empire-builders but it certainly ranks with the BEGAAR (forced labour), the Colour Bar, the indentured 'slave' system, and the virtual serfdom in the plantations, among the major blessings of the British Raj

And precisely because the rickshaw is a symbol of imperialist exploitation and the rickshaw-puller an embodiment of the poignant suffering of downtrodden humanity, many a sensitive writer has been inspired to depict the inequity and callousness of this system through the melancholy stooped, doomed figure of a rickshaw coolies (For the most important and vital thing to remember about a rickshaw coolie is that his expectancy of life is only half that of an average human being Remember that when on your next visit to a hill station, you light-heartedly call out "Eh, rickshawwala"!)

In his famous novel, COOLIE, Mulkraj Anand appropriately closes his saga of the rise of the class system in India by showing his main character, Munoo, the peasant boy uprooted from land, tearing his lungs out pulling rickshaws up and down the slopes of imperialist Simla. In a passage marked by brilliant irony he tells of the origin of this man-killing contraption:

"The Rev. J. Fordyce, a Chaplain of St. Mary's Church, was much troubled by the uncomfortable thoughts of death and dignity which arose in the minds of his congregation in the Victorian age And, being very concerned to see that the souls of his flock did not suffer from the discomforts of the body, he concentrated all his efforts to scure an adequate vehicle for the conveyance of their persons from their bungalows to the Church and from the Church to their bungalows. He invented the rickshaw.....It was not difficult to train the coolies to run like horses.....And, of course, the genius of the western man for technical achievement improved vastly on the original model in the decades following the death of Rev. J. Fordyce. The first rickshaw was iron-tyred and, it is said, used to bump and shake fearfully. On the night of a big dance or other tamasha, Simla used to be kept up by the continuing rumbling roll of hundreds of rickshaws. The rubber tyre was introduced in 1898.... Pneumatic tyres came next. With this and improvements in cushions and upholstery, it is now a pleasure for the rich to be driven about in rickshaws....."

A pleasure, indeed, it is. But what of the rickshaw coolie? How much of a pleasure is it to him?

This is the story of Munoo, the Indian "Coolie". Then there is the story of Happy Boy, the Chinese "RICKSHAW BOY" told by Lau Shaw in his novel of that name. It is, in my opinion, one of the greatest novels of any country and all times —sensitively-written, honest, real! He makes of Happy Boy one of the immortal characters of fiction—like Dickens' Oliver Twist and David Copperfield, or Mark Twain's Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn!—and places it precisely in the social setting of contemporary China. In a memorable tea-house scene he describes a decrepit old rickshaw-puller and makes of him a tragic figure of truly epic proportions. With his grandson, he enters the tea-house and, exhausted by the cold and hunger, he collapses near the stove. The other rickshaw-pullers help him with food and it is then that he opens his mouth:

"..... the two of us, grandaad and grandson, earn our rice with that one rickshaw. It's a worn-out cart, but our support is the fact that we own it..... ..Sometimes we earn more and sometimes less, and the two of us pass our days in bitter poverty. There's nothing else we can do—nothing else."..... ..

'Some of the group sat still and didn't move, others went out with the old man and his grandson. Happy Boy was the first of those—he wanted to see what the rickshaw looked like.....

It was the most broken-down old rickshaw he had ever seen.... The old man spot on his hands, groaned, picked up the rickshaw shafts, and said, "See you all tomorrow, my brothers."

'Happy Boy stood dully by the doorway watching the two of them, the old man and the young boy, with their rickshaw. The old man was talking as he pulled the cart along, sometimes in a loud voice and sometimes in a low one. The lights along the roadway were bright and the shadows impenetrably dark. Happy Boy listened and watched, and in his heart he felt a sadness more unbearable than any he had ever known before.

'It was as if Little Horse (the grandson) was all his past and his boyhood, and as if in the old man he could see the most the future could hold for him....."

And not for him alone, but for all the rickshaw-pullers of the world. That is why rickshaws are to be abolished in China. That is why this instrument of human degradation must be banished from India, too.

*

From Ninotchka to Tanya!

It is a healthy sign that the Hollywood monopoly of foreign film fare exhibited in this country is at last—albeit slowly—breaking down, and now and then one *can* see a few reels from the less pretentious but more honest film centres of the world. Last Sunday I saw two such films—the Russian TANYA and the Swiss THE LAST CHANCE.

TANYA which was shown by the Friends of the Soviet Union at an early morning matinee in a Dadar Cinema is not by any means a great Russian film—it does not stand comparison, for instance, with the poetically sensitive CHILDHOOD OF GORKY, grimly realistic ZOYA and SHE DEFENDS HER COUNTRY, or the epic PETER THE FIRST. It is what, in Hollywood parlance, may be described as a "B" class picture—i.e., a low-budget affair, dealing with a not very ambitious theme. It is one of the pre-war musicals which, in the realm of film art, represented the cheerful optimism and constructive endeavours of the Soviet people during the final phase of the Third Five-Year Plan.

What is important, however, is that it tells its story with quiet, honest realism. It is a story of an illiterate but basically intelligent, inventive and resourceful small-town girl who, by self-education and Socialist initiative, invents a system to increase textile production and thus becomes a national heroine. Though a simple, unmelodramatic narrative, it emphasizes the freedom of opportunity in a truly Socialist State, the place of the individual in the context of a collectivist society, and, above all, the lively, cheerful spirit, the *joi de vivre*, which animated the Soviet people during the period of construction. And it presents a people's heroine as an unglamorous but by no means unattractive maiden whose dreams of personal happiness are fully integrated with the interests of the community. It is a Success Story —with a difference!

TANYA struck me as yet another striking reply to the notorious NINOTCHKA, which M.G.M. ("Art For Arts' Sake") of the allegedly non-political Hollywood produced to lampoon Soviet ideals and the Soviet people. Produced at about the same time, dealing with the identical period in recent Soviet history, the two portraits are glaringly different—while Ninotchka is ridiculously serious, Tanya is irrepressibly gay; while Ninotchka is inhumanly matter-of-fact, Tanya is profoundly human in her smiles and her tears; Ninotchka is an automaton, Tanya is an individual; Ninotchka is a slanderous caricature, Tanya is the portrait of a human being. A nation of soulless Ninotchkas could not have withstood the Nazi onslaught for two days, but a nation of Tanyas—by their cheerful determination and ingenious resourcefulness in times of stress—drove the invaders back and broke the back of Hitlerism. When Ninotchka is relegated to the Limbo of Forgotten Lies, Tanya will be remembered as a shining truth

"The Last Chance"

THE LAST CHANCE is the first Swiss film I have seen but if it is a representative specimen then the film industry in little Switzerland is very much ahead of our own. In the matter of technique, "The Last Chance" is as good as the best Hollywood product, while it is marked by the subtlety, restraint and realism of the better French films. But it has certain features which place it in a special category by itself.

The cast of "The Last Chance" is chosen not from professional actors and actresses but from refugees from half a dozen different nationalities, each of them playing a role approximating to his or her own real life experiences, and each speaking in a language he or she would speak in real life. This unconventional treatment of the subject gives the picture a third dimension of realism which the studied realistic effects of the grimmest of Hollywood pictures somehow invariably lack. For here 'realism' does not consist of tricky light-and-shade and hollow-eyed unshaven characters, but rather in the complete absence of contrived melodrama from the sequence of events depicted on the screen. To give one example: The Englishman and the American prisoners of war who escape from a German train in the north of Italy meet a charming Italian girl who is sympathetic towards them. The Englishman is obviously struck with her and all his prison loneliness and disgust with war and hunger for love come out in the prolonged parting kiss This happens in the beginning of the film. Thereafter at every story turn and twist, a scenarist friend who knows all the professional tricks of the boy meets-girl-loses-girl-gets girl trade was expecting her to reappear But she didn't—because it is not the sort of story in which she could or should! It doesn't happen in life—and so it doesn't happen in the picture, either! Indeed, but for this brief encounter, the romantic motif is conspicuous by its absence.

The romance dramatized here is not the mutual sex-attraction of a boy and a girl, but man's ceaseless, eternal quest for freedom, peace and security. In this picture they are summed up and symbolized in Switzerland, the war-time haven of refuge for homeless and uprooted victims of Nazi tyranny, but it is the idea rather than the country that matters. The sensitive portrayal each character and the subtle handling of the theme by the director invest it with a significance that transcends the timeliness of a war picture. The dozen and odd refugees struggling through the perilously frozen Alps might well be humanity itself trudging through history in search of the ultimate goal of human happiness —call it Utopia or Switzerland! And the desperate, grim and bloody situation through which the world has emerged was certainly the LAST CHANCE it had to reach that goal.

*

FOR OUR PREMIER'S ATTENTION

Besides the food and clothing problem the Housing problem needs urgent attention of the Government. There are thousands in this city, who in the absence of any accommodation are putting up with friends or relatives—inconveniencing themselves as well as their benefactors. There are many who have to sleep under staircases in motor garages and public parks. On the other hand, any room or flat which falls vacant is immediately taken up by unscrupulous racketeers, who offer them for considerable premium !! The middle class and the lower middle class are the worst sufferers." Cannot some bold step be evolved immediately, to alleviate this great distress"

— K. R- CHANDRA

Five Candles On I.P.T.A. Birthday Cake

There was no cake but if there was one there would have been five candles on it when the Bombay People's Theatre threw a Birthday Party to celebrate the fifth aniversary of the I.P.T.A. which came into existence exactly five years ago—on May First, 1941.

I rememper the occasion very well. It was a play in Marathi called "DADA", staged appropriately enough at a threatre in the working-class area of Parel. The audience was a mixture of progressive intellectuals and mill-hands—or, as Romain Rolland would have described them, brain-workers and manual workers. The theme of the play was working class unity and the exposure of the capitalist system.

That, with slight variations, has been the pattern of the People's Theatre activities ever since. In five years the movement has spread to most of the provinces and I.P.T.A. plays have been performed and I.P.T.A. songs sung in nearly a dozen different languages of India. The Bombay branch alone (which performs in five languages—Hindustani, Gujerati, Marathi, Telugu and English) gave no less than 150 shows in 1945, ranging from "They Came To A City" at Sunderbai Hall in the Fort area to open-air mass gathering of peasants in the interior of Maharashtra. In English or in Telugu, in the form of ballads or ballets, in dance or in song, in the I. P. T. A. play or the I.P.T A film, the message of the I.P.T.A. has been the same—Freedom. Unity, Social Justice!

During the fifth year of its short life the I.P.T.A. did something which no comparable organisation anywhere in the world (without the backing of State or Finance capital) has even attempted. It produced a full-length feature film written, directed, produced, scored, acted, edited and publicised by non-professionals from among its own members. DHARTI KE LAL (Children of The Earth), when released, will carry the message of the I.P.T.A. ("People's Theatre Stars The People") to millions hitherto unfamiliar with the name and work of this national organisation.

Humorous Skit

No Cure For Worry

By K. S. MENON

I had not been feeling my old self for some time, yet couldn't explain exactly what the nature of my trouble was. Trouble I had and that is about all I knew of it.

Those near and dear to me didn't want me to go the way of all flesh one fine morning and so were pestering me about consulting a doctor. Doctors have never been on easy terms with me and the mere sight of them usually sends my nerves nagging, firstly due to the dislike for sour mixtures and secondly because of the fear of having to meet their bills. Anynow fear of death is a ghostly affair and I felt I had better be on the safer side and so one morning I legged it to the doctor's.

He went through a thorough process of examination, asked me a score of questions regarding the history of my malady and finally said, "Well mister, your case is an exceptional one. You suffer from worry and not having treated such cases before I am sorry to say I can't cure you. You had also better know that worry kills people," he added reassuringly. And after telling me that the cure for my ailment was not quite within his province of treatment, he sat down and wrote me a long prescription which I felt was somewhat of an acknowledgement for the ten quids he pocketed. (I was not fool enough buy the mixture at any rate.)

*

I went home and sat back in my easy chair smoking my cigarette wondering what the devil was going to happen to me. It left me in no peace of mind especially with nearly a tenth part of my salary wasted just to know that worry kills people. Boiling the whole thing down I felt it the rummiest affair in which I had ever been involved.

I had scarcely sat there for two minutes thinking it over when somebody announced that the bill-collector had come from the Municipality. The fellow had never had the privilege of being in my good books-ever since I came to know of his existence. "I am suffering from worry and the doctor says it sometimes may prove fatal. I don't want a bill collector to kill me. Ask the blighter to clear off and kill someone else," I shouted. The fellow would not go without his money and I had to worry over it.

Worry has been a thing that has been sticking to me like a shadow from the very day I breathed. As a small child I remember worrying over the prospects of receiving a spanking from my elder brother for using his algebra note-book for practicing drawing, worrying as to whether my mother would hold me responsible gor the loss of butter from the cupboard, worrying over being discovered for smashing father's spectacles in an experiment with a hammer and over countless such other incidents.

As a schoolboy life was nothing but a big worry—worry for not doing my grammar, worry over the chances of my teacher finding out that the boy in front of me had got the same sum wrong in the same way as mine, worry over being caught for breaking the school furniture and fixing pins upright in the teacher's chair and scores of similar whatnots. I wonder very much how I ever managed to live up to sixteen.

I sat there ruminating over all these when there came the drum-cracking scream of the child of my next door neighbour. That little girl was born to cry. I am the sort of fellow who belongs to the 'Early to bed and late to rise' schiol of thought and nothing gives me more pleasure than staying in bed till about eight o'clock in the morning. At exactly half past five, about two and half hours before the scheduled time for my rise, the siren goes off from the house on my right. The parents never care much for the screaming child and let it have its will. Moreover they are the sort of folks that have little respect for the sentiments of their peace-loving neighbours. However could one hope to sleep with such a pandemonium raging about ten yards away from you. I wake up with a curse.

The milk-man never comes earlier than eight o'clock. However much one tells him to come earlier and add less water to the milk the fellow can never do these two things. The two hours between the time you wake up and the arrival of the first cup of tea is the period when your patience is put to the test. You can never concentrate on a newspaper or a magazine unless the life-giving tea goes in. And there right off you have started to worry. "Well begun is half done", they say but I don't seem to have enjoyed the privilege of doing things easily that way.

It is time for office and you sit through your breakfast and finally rush up to the dressing room to find that there isn't one unbroken button on your pants, your collar button is nowhere to be seen, your shoe is unpolished and a dozen other essentials not in your way. You kick up a row and the whole family gets busy putting things straight—the children search for the collar button with which they have been playing the previous evening, the wife sews the buttons, the servant polishes the shoe while you comb your hair. It's all a nasty affair and by the time you slip out of the house the bus is gone.

The next arrives fifteen minues later by which time you have cursed about a hundred times the company and the whole lot of fellows that are responsible for the running of the buses. After long waiting the bus arrives with a double load of passengers but you have one consolation that they are ever ready to oblige you provided you can shove your oar inside the vehicle. You squeeze in and stamp on somebody's toes while he howls and push somebody too much for which he shouts as if the whole place belonged to him. What with one thing and another you reach the office at least twenty minutes late and court the displeasure of the boss, who never knows what a lot of trouble one takes to be in time.

*

Evening comes along and you reach home to find that your missus is dressed up for shopping. When she had gone to some function or other she had seen somebody with a new type of sari or a new-fashioned blouse or the latest styled earrings or bangles and has been waiting all these days till her husband drew her pay. Ye, Gods, women!

If there isn't the wife with whom to go for a shopping you go to the club and have a spot of tennis which is the best-spent time during the day. The very moment darkness sets in you start worrying as to what excuse to say for going home late.

You cook up some excuse or other and all goes well. At dinner time the wife tells you that the servant has started complaining about his pay, that the mother-in-law had written that she would be spending a month with you (which is not a pleasant affair), that so and so who borrowed fifty rupees two years back has written that he can't pay it within a year, that Gopu (my nephew) has written that he urgently requires hundred rupees for paying his examination fees and a dozen other such things, that by the time dinner is over you feel too giddy to walk.

After spending such an awful day one yearns to forget it by a sound sleep and the very moment the head touches the pillow you hear the loud sound of your left-hand-side neighbour's radio. I wonder why people think they are doing their neighbours a good turn by letting them hear their radios, for which purpose, they have tuned it to full volume. The one peculiarity with my neighbour's radio is that it receives only stations west Timbuctoo. To say that the music that emerges out of it resembles the croaking of frogs in the rainy season is to put it mildly. Where does sleep come in such pleasant surroundings! By about midnight the kind hearted fellow tunes down his set and I buzz off to sleep.

How could I not suffer from an overdose of worry? If worry kills people, the fact should be better known, for it is an easy way to commit murder. You go on worrying your enemy for sometime and one day you can be sure to see his obituary notice. They whose vocation is worrying people are not tried at once, there is every likelihood of my shuffling off this mortal coil ere long.

And yet he had to die.

"These things happen, sir," said the constable philosophically.

"And in that very room the very next year a baby was born. I came to know about it because it was my sister's first delivery case and she was so excited about she couldn't wait for the baby to be born, she said. She pointed out the house to me when we passed by that evening and said proudly. "You see that room with the latticed window, Moti? Well, that was where my first baby was born." I could have wept. One year ago, I said to myself, Raghu died there and there was mourning and this year a baby is born and there is rejoicing."

"And then, sir"? said the constable, now thoroughly interested.

"Two years later," I continued, "some new people came in again and there was a wedding. I saw the girl. She was small and fair with a pretty but stupid face and she was so loaded with jewels I remember wondering the weight of them did'nt bear her down. She spent her wedding night in that room."

"And when was it you were here, sir?"

Milkman (who has just had an influx of refugees to his round).
"Can only let you 'ave a pint this morning, mum. I had nigh on forty gallons come in yesterday."

THE ROOM WITH THE LATTICED WINDOW

(Continued From Page 2)

"We came in soon after that. It was my room then. I had my books there and my table was against that latticed window. It was a very pleasant and comfortable place to study in."

"I suppose it was after you left, sir, that Chandravadana bought the house?'"

"Yes. God!" What a woman! It was incredible such a plain ungraceful creature should have attracted so many and so much. Men came flocking—rich and poor, young and old, of all castes and creeds."

"I was only a boy then," said the constable, "but I happened to pass this house one evening when she was singing. She had a beautiful voice. I suppose that was what swept men off their feet?"

"Yes, to some extent. She had a marvellous singing voice, I admit. But she had something else, constable. I had the good luck to find out what it was. I did a bit of painting in those days, you know. Not anything superfine or anything but just enough to make well-meaning but not-very-intelligent friends advise me to take it up as a career. Well, I was passing the house early one morning when I saw her picking flowers in the garden. Moved by a naughty impulse I leaned over the gate and asked her if she would let me paint her."

"She must have been very much surprised, sir."

'Yes. You see it was such an unusual request. And she was so surprised constable, she just could'nt say anything for a moment. I went on looking at her feeling very weak indeed about the knees but trying to look as if it was an everyday occurrence as far as I was concerned and then all of a sudden she smiled and said 'Why not? Come right in and begin right now.'

"And did you, sir?"

"Fortunately, I had a pencil with me I drew the sketch on the last page of my Physics Record. She was most delightfully unself-conscious and talked all the while I sketched. I have still to meet another woman constable, with such a fine sense of humour and such a depth of learning. There was nothing in Sanskrit literature she had not read. And such a charming conversationalist too. She was having me holding my sides one moment and awed and wondering the next. Nothing cheap or flashy or shallow about her.

In her own way she was the most faithful of women—faithful to her class, to her traditions.....One felt she ennobled her very profession. I was swept off my feet, utterly and breathlessly. In fact, I was so charmed I accepted her offer of some refreshment. And she led me into that same room and gave me some delicious sweets and hot coffee. She was the perfect hostess. And one forgot her plainness and awkwad figure when one heard her talk and laugh. Wonderful woman!"

"And after that, sir?" said the constable.

After that? After that had come Maya and her sharp tongued disreputable mother—piquant, lively, youthful Maya with her turbulent moods and passion so lovely and so desirable. And that room had been her room. I remembered how often I used to call to her by throwing a stone at her window. And in that very room I had asked her to marry me and she had refused..... Perhaps it was just as well. She was better off without me. Not for her were the greys and browns of commonplace existence.

"After that, sir?" said the constable again.

"Oh," I said vaguely, "I left the place."

I looked up at Maya's room again before moving away. And prompted by an inexplicable impulse I picked up a stone and threw it at her window. A foolish little gesture of farewell!

To my consternation the window suddenly flew open.

"Who is that?" asked a woman's voice.

MAYA! My heart stood still in consternation.

"It is me" said the constable familiarly.

"There is somebody else with you," she said sharply, looking down at me from the window.

"I am just a sightseer," I said as casually as I could. "Please do not be alarmed."

But she was not satisfied.

"I thought—" she began and suddenly stopped.

"What?" said the constable indulgently.

"That it was somebody I knew," she said softly, "when I was young and had dreams."

I turned towards the gate. She spoke again.

"Coming in to-night, Iswar?" she asked, her voice slurring with the same honeyed sweetness I had heard so often in her mother's—years before.

"Later," said the constable, "about midnight, when I ab relieved of the beat."

I opened the gate.

"Good-night, constable," I said and walked away quickly.

I do not rember how far or where I went from there. But as I walked on a painfully-exquisite weight of memory lifted from my heart and left me—a much smaller man.

I knew Sobha would be waiting up for me. I would tell her everything.

As I let myself into my home the hall-clock struck the hour.

It was midnight.

He: "I don't think a man of sixty is much use to the Army".
She: "I wouldn't say that. In the last war I used to read a lot about the French 75's.

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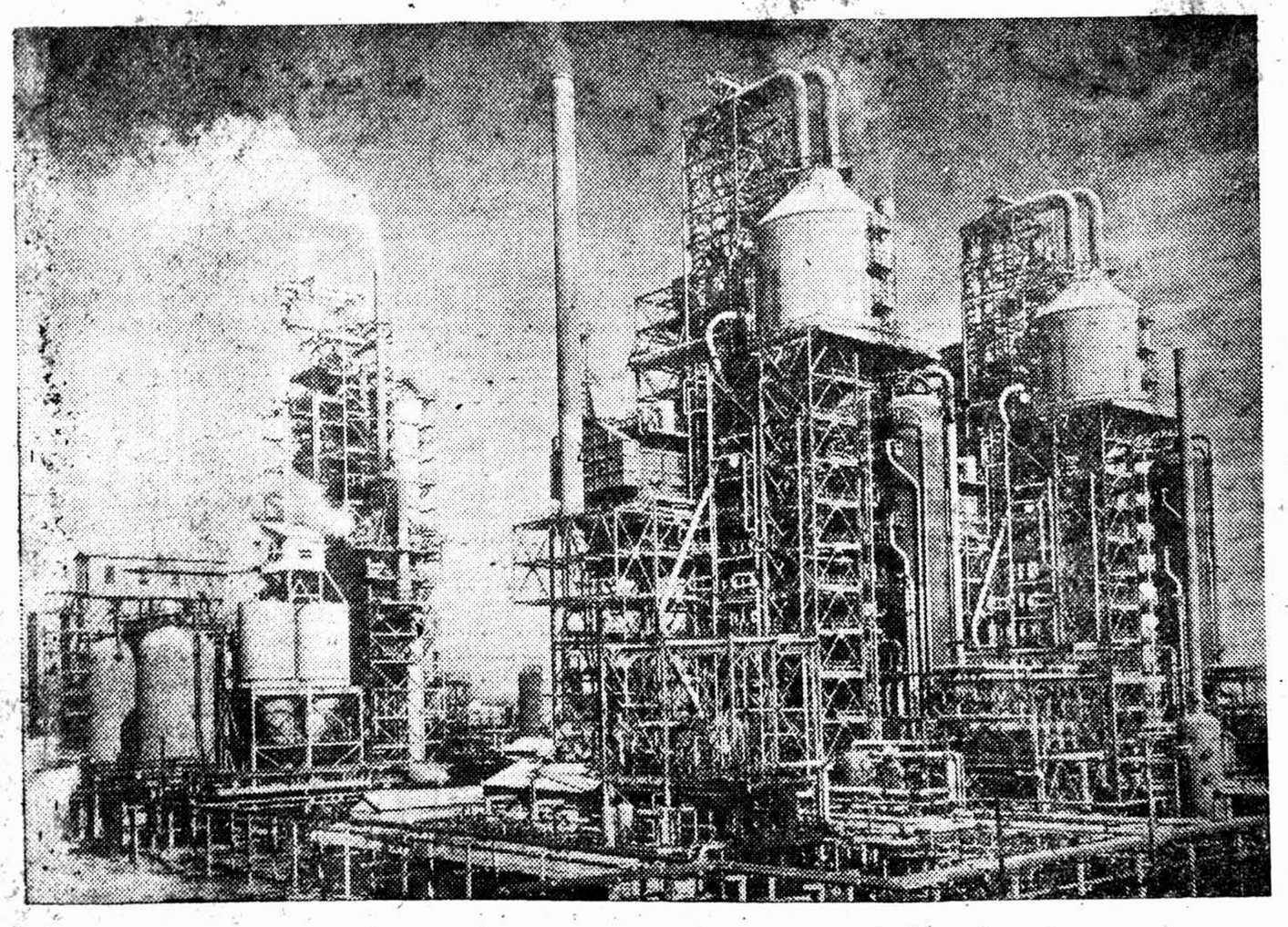


These three new catalytic oil "cracking" units are turning out gasoline at the plant of a large U.S. refining company of Louisiana.

OIL IN U.S.A.

In the 86 years since the modern petroleum **industry started** with the **drilling of wells in Titusville**, Pen**sylvania, an east coast** state, the **United States has** produced some **66 per cent of all the** petroleum pro**duced in the world.** Actually, the United States **contains** only 15 per **cent of the earth's** rock formations favourable **for the** presence of oil. The Middle East, the Soviet Union, and the **East Indies** islands are among the **other** principal proved reserves **of petroleum.**

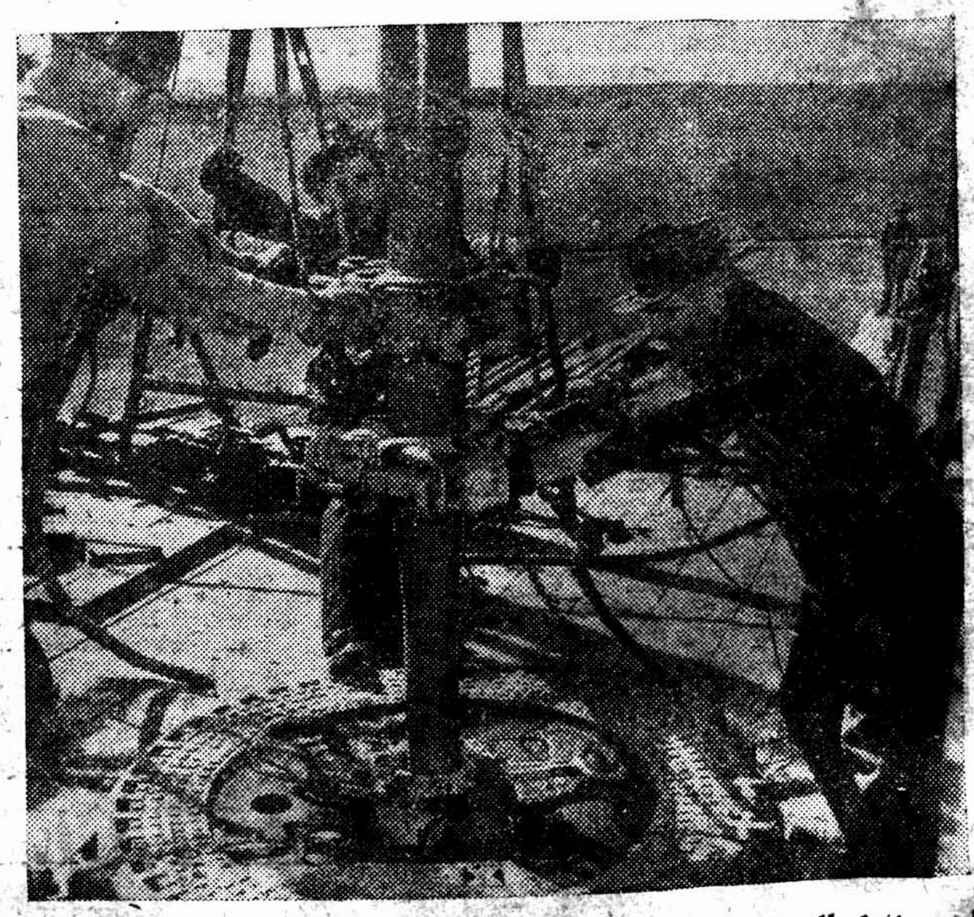
The **pre-war world** consumed 2,000 **million barrels of** oil each year, or almost **a barrel for** each person of **the world's population.** Since the **standard of living of many** peoples **is expected to rise** in the post-war era, several **times that** quantity of **oil per year will be** needed.

For the intricate processing of **crude oil into** various petroleum products there are about 400 operating refineries in the United States, engaging approximately 110,000 chemists, engineers and other highly skilled workers.

The methods of distilling oil were originally very simple. The charge of crude oil was pumped into a cylindrically shaped still and heated. As the temperatures of the crude oil were gradually increased, the lower boiling fractions were first vaporized and condensed by means of a water-cooled condenser. Following this, the less volatile fractions were distilled, and this process was continued until all the desired distillate was removed. There was always much overlapping of the various products. To separate the fractions in a more desirable manner, the modern refinery employs so-called franctionating towers.

These towers work upon the principle that if two or more products having different boiling points are distilled, the one having the lowest boiling point will come off at the top of the tower where the temperature is the lowest, while the product having the highest boiling point will remain near the bottom of the tower where the temperature is highest.

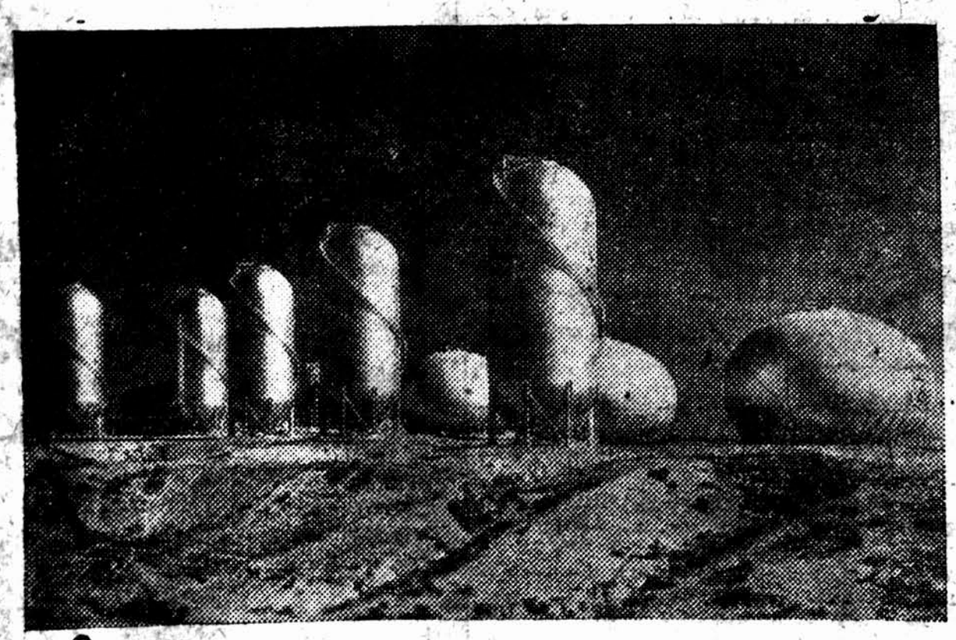
Oil, already vaporized, is admitted to the bottom of the tall vertical tower which contains a series of horizontal trays. The portion of the crude oil which boils at the lowest temperature rises in its vapor form and condenses on the trays near the top of the tower where the temperatures are lower, and that portion which has the highest boiling point condenses on the lowest trays. To get a larger yield of gasoline from each barrel of crude oil, a process called "cracking" is used. The process breaks down the original structure of the oil molecules which are formed into the desired structure according to the factors of heat and pressure which are controlled to give the desired result. When a catalyst or chemical agent is used to aid the change in the molecular structure of the material being processed, the process is called "catalytic" cracking.



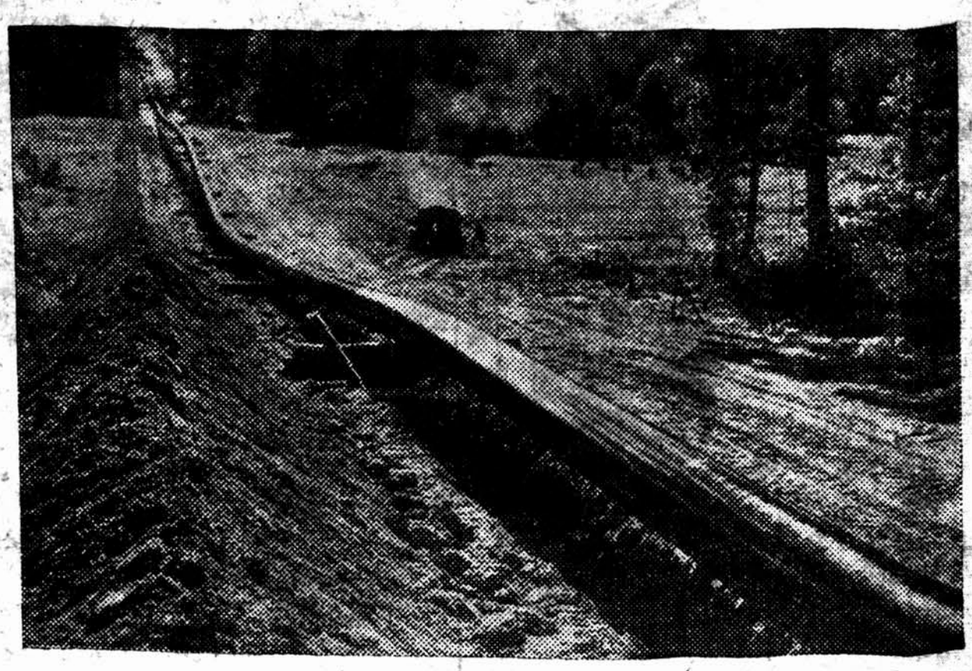
At an oilwell Oklahoma oil drillers are using tools called 'tongs' which are clamped on the drill stem to screw on a new section of stem or to unscrew the stem, section by section, after the drilling far below the earth's surface is finished. This procedure is common in modern rotary drilling for oil. The well pictured here is being drilled by a "wildcat" organization of drillers, which means they are formed in a group independent of any of the great oil companies.

There are many variations in the refining process or the methods of treatment given the various products as they are prepared in the basic processes. Plants equipped to completely process and manufacture all of the known byproducts of petroleum recover almost 100 per cent of the crude oil in usable products. Some of the products are: aviation gasoline lubricants, motor gasoline and lubricants, chemical solvents, varnish-makers and paint-maker's naphthas, kerosene, light industrial fuels, Diesel fuels, candy-maker's oil, fruit-packer's oil, salves, cosmetics, creams, medicinal ointment, laundry wax, floor oil, heavy lubricating oil, greases, asphalt for paving roads and streets, roofing material, anti-freeze compounds for automobiles and airplanes and, recently, components of synthetic rubber.

The U.S. petroleum industry today employs between 650,000 to 700,000 workers, and has marshalled much experience and still. The largest oil pipe line in the world was built during the war to expedite supplies of oil to U. S. armed forces and the armies of the United Nations. The pipe line extends from the oil fields of the U. S. south-west State of Texas to the New York City-Philadelphia oil district of the U.S. eastern Atlantic coast, a distance of 1,400 miles.



Large spherical and cylindrical tanks of unusual design are used to store the volatile refined products of crude oil at the plant of an oil company in the American south-west. Groups of large tanks such as these are a common sight on the broad, flat levels of the Mid-continent oil fields centering in the U.S. state of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming.



This "Big Inch" pipe line is 24 inches in diameter and delivers a daily flow of 300,000 barrels of oil. The picture shows the pipe line in the course of building. The pipe line extends from the oil fields of U.S. south-west state of Texas to New York City—Philadelphia oil district of U.S. eastern Atlantic coast.

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